

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 10181



Offered by:

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To: Subst. House Bill No. 6448

File No. 542

Cal. No. 386

"AN ACT CONCERNING ACCESS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT, THE MODERNIZATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS. REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT AND THE PROVISION OF OUTDOOR DINING."

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
- 2 following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Section 1. Section 1-200 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 5 As used in this chapter and section 9 of this act, the following words
- 6 and phrases [shall] have the following meanings, except where such
- 7 terms are used in a context which clearly indicates the contrary:
- (1) "Public agency" or "agency" means: 8
- 9 (A) Any executive, administrative or legislative office of the state or

10 any political subdivision of the state and any state or town agency, any 11 department, institution, bureau, board, commission, authority or official 12 of the state or of any city, town, borough, municipal corporation, school 13 district, regional district or other district or other political subdivision of 14 the state, including any committee of, or created by, any such office, 15 subdivision, agency, department, institution, bureau, 16 commission, authority or official, and also includes any judicial office, 17 official, or body or committee thereof but only with respect to its or their 18 administrative functions, and for purposes of this subparagraph, 19 "judicial office" includes, but is not limited to, the Division of Public 20 Defender Services;

- 21 (B) Any person to the extent such person is deemed to be the 22 functional equivalent of a public agency pursuant to law; or
 - (C) Any "implementing agency", as defined in section 32-222.
 - (2) "Meeting" means any hearing or other proceeding of a public agency, any convening or assembly of a quorum of a multimember public agency, and any communication by or to a quorum of a multimember public agency, whether in person or by means of electronic equipment, to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public agency has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power. "Meeting" does not include: Any meeting of a personnel search committee for executive level employment candidates; any chance meeting, or a social meeting neither planned nor intended for the purpose of discussing matters relating to official business; strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining; a caucus of members of a single political party notwithstanding that such members also constitute a quorum of a public agency; an administrative or staff meeting of a single-member public agency; and communication limited to notice of meetings of any public agency or the agendas thereof. A quorum of the members of a public agency who are present at any event which has been noticed and conducted as a meeting of another public agency under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act shall not be deemed to be holding a meeting of the public agency of which they

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- (3) "Caucus" means (A) a convening or assembly of the enrolled members of a single political party who are members of a public agency within the state or a political subdivision, or (B) the members of a multimember public agency, which members constitute a majority of the membership of the agency, or the other members of the agency who constitute a minority of the membership of the agency, who register their intention to be considered a majority caucus or minority caucus, as the case may be, for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, provided (i) the registration is made with the office of the Secretary of the State for any such public agency of the state, in the office of the clerk of a political subdivision of the state for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state, or in the office of the clerk of each municipal member of any multitown district or agency, (ii) no member is registered in more than one caucus at any one time, (iii) no such member's registration is rescinded during the member's remaining term of office, and (iv) a member may remain a registered member of the majority caucus or minority caucus regardless of whether the member changes his or her party affiliation under chapter 143.
- (4) "Person" means natural person, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or society.
- (5) "Public records or files" means any recorded data or information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, received or retained by a public agency, or to which a public agency is entitled to receive a copy by law or contract under section 1-218, whether such data or information be handwritten, typed, tape-recorded, videotaped, printed, photostated, photographed or recorded by any other method.
- (6) "Executive sessions" means a meeting of a public agency at which the public is excluded for one or more of the following purposes: (A) Discussion concerning the appointment, employment, performance, evaluation, health or dismissal of a public officer or employee, provided

that such individual may require that discussion be held at an open meeting; (B) strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation to which the public agency or a member thereof, because of the member's conduct as a member of such agency, is a party until such litigation or claim has been finally adjudicated or otherwise settled; (C) matters concerning security strategy or the deployment of security personnel, or devices affecting public security; (D) discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate by the state or a political subdivision of the state when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction would adversely impact the price of such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated or abandoned; and (E) discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein described in subsection (b) of section 1-210.

- (7) "Personnel search committee" means a body appointed by a public agency, whose sole purpose is to recommend to the appointing agency a candidate or candidates for an executive-level employment position. Members of a "personnel search committee" shall not be considered in determining whether there is a quorum of the appointing or any other public agency.
- (8) "Pending claim" means a written notice to an agency which sets forth a demand for legal relief or which asserts a legal right stating the intention to institute an action in an appropriate forum if such relief or right is not granted.
- (9) "Pending litigation" means (A) a written notice to an agency which sets forth a demand for legal relief or which asserts a legal right stating the intention to institute an action before a court if such relief or right is not granted by the agency; (B) the service of a complaint against an agency returnable to a court which seeks to enforce or implement legal relief or a legal right; or (C) the agency's consideration of action to enforce or implement legal relief or a legal right.

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108 (10) "Freedom of Information Act" means this chapter.

- (11) "Governmental function" means the administration or management of a program of a public agency, which program has been authorized by law to be administered or managed by a person, where (A) the person receives funding from the public agency for administering or managing the program, (B) the public agency is involved in or regulates to a significant extent such person's administration or management of the program, whether or not such involvement or regulation is direct, pervasive, continuous or day-to-day, and (C) the person participates in the formulation of governmental policies or decisions in connection with the administration or management of the program and such policies or decisions bind the public agency. "Governmental function" shall not include the mere provision of goods or services to a public agency without the delegated responsibility to administer or manage a program of a public agency.
- 123 (12) "Electronic equipment" means any technology that facilitates 124 real-time public access to meetings, including, but not limited to, 125 telephonic, video or other conferencing platforms.
 - (13) "Electronic transmission" means any form or process of communication not directly involving the physical transfer of paper or another tangible medium, which (A) is capable of being retained, retrieved and reproduced by the recipient, and (B) is retrievable in paper form by the recipient.
- Sec. 2. Section 1-206 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):
- (a) Any denial of the right to inspect or copy records provided for under section 1-210 shall be made to the person requesting such right by the public agency official who has custody or control of the public record, in writing, within four business days of such request, except when the request is determined to be subject to subsections (b) and (c) of section 1-214, in which case such denial shall be made, in writing, within ten business days of such request. Failure to comply with a

request to so inspect or copy such public record within the applicable number of business days shall be deemed to be a denial.

(b) (1) Any person denied the right to inspect or copy records under section 1-210 or wrongfully denied the right to attend any meeting of a public agency or denied any other right conferred by the Freedom of Information Act may appeal therefrom to the Freedom of Information Commission, by filing a notice of appeal with said commission. A notice of appeal shall be filed not later than thirty days after such denial, except in the case of an unnoticed or secret meeting, in which case the appeal shall be filed not later than thirty days after the person filing the appeal receives actual or constructive notice that such meeting was held. For purposes of this subsection, such notice of appeal shall be deemed to be filed on the date it is received by said commission or on the date it is postmarked, if received more than thirty days after the date of the denial from which such appeal is taken. Upon receipt of such notice, the commission shall serve upon all parties, by certified or registered mail or by electronic transmission, a copy of such notice together with any other notice or order of such commission. In the case of the denial of a request to inspect or copy records contained in a public employee's personnel or medical file or similar file under subsection (c) of section 1-214, the commission shall include with its notice or order an order requiring the public agency to notify any employee whose records are the subject of an appeal, and the employee's collective bargaining representative, if any, of the commission's proceedings and, if any such employee or collective bargaining representative has filed an objection under said subsection (c), the agency shall provide the required notice to such employee and collective bargaining representative by certified mail, return receipt requested, by electronic transmission or by hand delivery with a signed receipt. A public employee whose personnel or medical file or similar file is the subject of an appeal under this subsection may intervene as a party in the proceedings on the matter before the commission. Said commission shall, after due notice to the parties, hear and decide the appeal within one year after the filing of the notice of appeal. The commission shall adopt regulations in accordance

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with chapter 54, establishing criteria for those appeals which shall be privileged in their assignment for hearing. Any such appeal shall be heard not later than thirty days after receipt of a notice of appeal and decided not later than sixty days after the hearing. If a notice of appeal concerns an announced agency decision to meet in executive session or an ongoing agency practice of meeting in executive sessions, for a stated purpose, the commission or a member or members of the commission designated by its chairperson shall serve notice upon the parties in accordance with this section and hold a preliminary hearing on the appeal not later than seventy-two hours after receipt of the notice, provided such notice shall be given to the parties at least forty-eight hours prior to such hearing. During such preliminary hearing, the commission shall take evidence and receive testimony from the parties. If after the preliminary hearing the commission finds probable cause to believe that the agency decision or practice is in violation of sections 1-200, as amended by this act, and 1-225, as amended by this act, the agency shall not meet in executive session for such purpose until the commission decides the appeal. If probable cause is found by the commission, it shall conduct a final hearing on the appeal and render its decision not later than five days after the completion of the preliminary hearing. Such decision shall specify the commission's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

(2) In any appeal to the Freedom of Information Commission under subdivision (1) of this subsection or subsection (c) of this section, the commission may confirm the action of the agency or order the agency to provide relief that the commission, in its discretion, believes appropriate to rectify the denial of any right conferred by the Freedom of Information Act. The commission may declare null and void any action taken at any meeting which a person was denied the right to attend and may require the production or copying of any public record. In addition, upon the finding that a denial of any right created by the Freedom of Information Act was without reasonable grounds and after the custodian or other official directly responsible for the denial has been given an opportunity to be heard at a hearing conducted in

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accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-184, inclusive, the commission may, in its discretion, impose against the custodian or other official a civil penalty of not less than twenty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. If the commission finds that a person has taken an appeal under this subsection frivolously, without reasonable grounds and solely for the purpose of harassing the agency from which the appeal has been taken, after such person has been given an opportunity to be heard at a hearing conducted in accordance with sections 4-176e to 4-184, inclusive, the commission may, in its discretion, impose against that person a civil penalty of not less than twenty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. The commission shall notify a person of a penalty levied against him pursuant to this subsection by written notice sent by certified or registered mail or electronic transmission. If a person fails to pay the penalty within thirty days of receiving such notice, the Superior Court shall, on application of the commission, issue an order requiring the person to pay the penalty imposed. If the executive director of the commission has reason to believe an appeal under subdivision (1) of this subsection or subsection (c) of this section (A) presents a claim beyond the commission's jurisdiction; (B) would perpetrate an injustice; or (C) would constitute an abuse of the commission's administrative process, the executive director shall not schedule the appeal for hearing without first seeking and obtaining leave of the commission. The commission shall provide due notice to the parties and review affidavits and written argument that the parties may submit and grant or deny such leave summarily at its next regular meeting. The commission shall grant such leave unless it finds that the appeal: (i) Does not present a claim within the commission's jurisdiction; (ii) would perpetrate an injustice; or (iii) would constitute an abuse of the commission's administrative process. Any party aggrieved by the commission's denial of such leave may apply to the superior court for the judicial district of New Britain, within fifteen days of the commission meeting at which such leave was denied, for an order requiring the commission to hear such appeal.

(3) In making the findings and determination under subdivision (2) of this subsection the commission shall consider the nature of any

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injustice or abuse of administrative process, including but not limited to: (A) The nature, content, language or subject matter of the request or the appeal, including, among other factors, whether the request or appeal is repetitious or cumulative; (B) the nature, content, language or subject matter of prior or contemporaneous requests or appeals by the person making the request or taking the appeal; (C) the nature, content, language or subject matter of other verbal and written communications to any agency or any official of any agency from the person making the request or taking the appeal; (D) any history of nonappearance at commission proceedings or disruption of the commission's administrative process, including, but not limited to, delaying commission proceedings; and (E) the refusal to participate in settlement conferences conducted by a commission ombudsman in accordance with the commission's regulations.

- (4) Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection to the contrary, in the case of an appeal to the commission of a denial by a public agency, the commission may, upon motion of such agency, confirm the action of the agency and dismiss the appeal without a hearing if it finds, after examining the notice of appeal and construing all allegations most favorably to the appellant, that (A) the agency has not violated the Freedom of Information Act, or (B) the agency has committed a technical violation of the Freedom of Information Act that constitutes a harmless error that does not infringe the appellant's rights under said act.
- (5) Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection, a public agency may petition the commission for relief from a requester that the public agency alleges is a vexatious requester. Such petition shall be sworn under penalty of false statement, as provided in section 53a-157b, and shall detail the conduct which the agency alleges demonstrates a vexatious history of requests, including, but not limited to: (A) The number of requests filed and the total number of pending requests; (B) the scope of the requests; (C) the nature, content, language or subject matter of other oral and written communications to the agency from the requester; and (E) a pattern of conduct that amounts to an abuse of the

right to access information under the Freedom of Information Act or an interference with the operation of the agency. Upon receipt of such petition, the executive director of the commission shall review the petition and determine whether it warrants a hearing. If the executive director determines that a hearing is not warranted, the executive director shall recommend that the commission deny the petition without a hearing. The commission shall vote at its next regular meeting after such recommendation to accept or reject such recommendation and, after such meeting, shall issue a written explanation of the reasons for such acceptance or rejection. If the executive director determines that a hearing is warranted, the commission shall serve upon all parties, by certified or registered mail or electronic transmission, a copy of such petition together with any other notice or order of the commission. The commission shall, after due notice to the parties, hear and either grant or deny the petition within one year after its filing. Upon a grant of such petition, the commission may provide appropriate relief commensurate with the vexatious conduct, including, but not limited to, an order that the agency need not comply with future requests from the vexatious requester for a specified period of time, but not to exceed one year. Any party aggrieved by the commission's granting of such petition may apply to the superior court for the judicial district of New Britain, within fifteen days of the commission meeting at which such petition was granted, for an order reversing the commission's decision.

(c) Any person who does not receive proper notice of any meeting of a public agency in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act may appeal under the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. A public agency of the state shall be presumed to have given timely and proper notice of any meeting as provided for in said Freedom of Information Act if notice is given in the Connecticut Law Journal or a Legislative Bulletin. A public agency of a political subdivision shall be presumed to have given proper notice of any meeting, if a notice is timely sent under the provisions of said Freedom of Information Act by (1) first-class mail to the address, or (2) electronic transmission to the information processing system, as defined in section

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1-267, indicated in the request of the person requesting the same. If such commission determines that notice was improper, it may, in its sound discretion, declare any or all actions taken at such meeting null and void.

(d) Any party aggrieved by the decision of said commission may appeal therefrom, in accordance with the provisions of section 4-183. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-183, in any such appeal of a decision of the commission, the court may conduct an in camera review of the original or a certified copy of the records which are at issue in the appeal but were not included in the record of the commission's proceedings, admit the records into evidence and order the records to be sealed or inspected on such terms as the court deems fair and appropriate, during the appeal. The commission shall have standing to defend, prosecute or otherwise participate in any appeal of any of its decisions and to take an appeal from any judicial decision overturning or modifying a decision of the commission. If aggrievement is a jurisdictional prerequisite to the commission taking any such appeal, the commission shall be deemed to be aggrieved. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3-125, legal counsel employed or retained by said commission shall represent said commission in all such appeals and in any other litigation affecting said commission. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4-183 and section 52-64, all process shall be served upon said commission at its office. Any appeal taken pursuant to this section shall be privileged in respect to its assignment for trial over all other actions except writs of habeas corpus and actions brought by or on behalf of the state, including informations on the relation of private individuals. Nothing in this section shall deprive any party of any rights he may have had at common law prior to January 1, 1958. If the court finds that any appeal taken pursuant to this section or section 4-183 is frivolous or taken solely for the purpose of delay, it shall order the party responsible therefor to pay to the party injured by such frivolous or dilatory appeal costs or attorney's fees of not more than one thousand dollars. Such order shall be in addition to any other remedy or disciplinary action required or permitted by statute or by rules of

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345 (e) Within sixty days after the filing of a notice of appeal alleging 346 violation of any right conferred by the Freedom of Information Act 347 concerning records of the Department of Energy and Environmental 348 Protection relating to the state's hazardous waste program under 349 sections 22a-448 to 22a-454, inclusive, the Freedom of Information 350 Commission shall, after notice to the parties, hear and decide the appeal. 351 Failure by the commission to hear and decide the appeal within such 352 sixty-day period shall constitute a final decision denying such appeal 353 for purposes of this section and section 4-183. On appeal, the court may, 354 in addition to any other powers conferred by law, order the disclosure 355 of any such records withheld in violation of the Freedom of Information 356 Act and may assess against the state reasonable attorney's fees and other 357 litigation costs reasonably incurred in an appeal in which the 358 complainant has prevailed against the Department of Energy and 359 Environmental Protection.

- Sec. 3. Section 1-225 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):
 - (a) The meetings of all public agencies, except executive sessions, as defined in subdivision (6) of section 1-200, as amended by this act, shall be open to the public and, in addition, may be accessible to the public by means of electronic equipment or by means of electronic equipment in conjunction with an in-person meeting. Any public agency that conducts a meeting, other than an executive session or emergency special meeting, as described in this section, solely by means of electronic equipment, shall (1) provide any member of the public (A) upon written request submitted not less than twenty-four hours prior to such meeting, with a physical location and any electronic equipment necessary to attend such meeting in real-time, and (B) the same opportunities to provide comment or testimony and otherwise participate in such meeting that such member of the public would be accorded if such meeting were held in person; (2) ensure that such meeting is recorded or transcribed, excluding any portion of the meeting

that is an executive session, and such transcription or recording is posted on the agency's Internet web site and made available to the public to view, listen and copy in the agency's office or regular place of business not later than seven days after the meeting and for not less than forty-five days thereafter; and (3) if a quorum of the members of a public agency attend a meeting by means of electronic equipment from the same physical location, permit members of the public to attend such meeting in such physical location. Any public agency that conducts a meeting by means of electronic equipment or by means of electronic equipment in conjunction with an in-person meeting shall provide members of the public agency the opportunity to participate by means of electronic equipment. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require a public agency to offer members of the public who attend a meeting by means of electronic equipment the opportunity for public comment, testimony or other participation if the provision of such opportunity is not required by law for members of the public who attend such a meeting in person.

(b) The votes of each member of any such public agency upon any issue before such public agency shall be reduced to writing, [and] made available for public inspection within forty-eight hours and [shall also be] recorded in the minutes of the [session] meeting at which taken. Any vote taken at a meeting during which any member participates by means of electronic equipment shall be taken by roll call, unless the vote is unanimous. Such minutes shall record a list of members that attended such meeting in person and a list of members that attended such meeting by means of electronic equipment. Not later than seven days after the date of the [session] meeting to which such minutes refer, such minutes shall be available for public inspection and posted on such public agency's Internet web site, if available, except that no public agency of a political subdivision of the state shall be required to post such minutes on an Internet web site. Each public agency shall make, keep and maintain a record of the proceedings of its meetings.

[(b)] (c) Each such public agency of the state shall file not later than January thirty-first of each year in the office of the Secretary of the State

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the schedule of the regular meetings of such public agency for the ensuing year and shall post such schedule on such public agency's Internet web site, if available, except that such requirements shall not apply to the General Assembly, either house thereof or to any committee thereof. Any other provision of the Freedom of Information Act notwithstanding, the General Assembly at the commencement of each regular session in the odd-numbered years, shall adopt, as part of its joint rules, rules to provide notice to the public of its regular, special, emergency or interim committee meetings. The chairperson or secretary of any such public agency of any political subdivision of the state shall file, not later than January thirty-first of each year, with the clerk of such subdivision the schedule of regular meetings of such public agency for the ensuing year, and no such meeting of any such public agency shall be held sooner than thirty days after such schedule has been filed. The chief executive officer of any multitown district or agency shall file, not later than January thirty-first of each year, with the clerk of each municipal member of such district or agency, the schedule of regular meetings of such public agency for the ensuing year, and no such meeting of any such public agency shall be held sooner than thirty days after such schedule has been filed.

[(c)] (d) The agenda of [the regular meetings of every] any regular meeting of a public agency, except for the General Assembly, shall be available to the public and shall be filed, not less than twenty-four hours before the [meetings] meeting to which [they refer,] it refers (1) in such agency's regular office or place of business, [and] (2) in the office and on the Internet web site of the Secretary of the State for any such public agency of the state, in the office of the clerk of such subdivision for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state or in the office of the clerk of each municipal member of any multitown district or agency. [. For any such public agency of the state, such agenda shall be posted on the public agency's and the Secretary of the State's web sites] and (3) on such public agency's Internet web site, if such public agency maintains an Internet web site, not less than twenty-four hours before such meeting, such public

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agency shall post on its Internet web site (A) any records subject to 445 446 disclosure pursuant to subsection (a) of section 1-210 that were prepared 447 prior to the meeting by such public agency or any party to a matter on the meeting agenda that will be introduced by a member of such public 448 449 agency or such public agency's staff during such meeting, including, but 450 not limited to, applications before such public agency, and (B) 451 instructions for the public to, by means of electronic equipment or in person, attend and provide comment, vote or otherwise participate in 452 453 such meeting, as applicable. Upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of 454 the members of a public agency present and voting, any subsequent 455 business not included in such filed [agendas] agenda may be considered 456 and acted upon at such meetings.

[(d)] (e) Notice of each special meeting of every public agency, except for the General Assembly, either house thereof or any committee thereof, shall be posted not less than twenty-four hours before the meeting to which such notice refers on the public agency's Internet web site, if available, and given not less than twenty-four hours prior to the time of such meeting by filing a notice of the time and place thereof in the office of the Secretary of the State for any such public agency of the state, in the office of the clerk of such subdivision for any public agency of a political subdivision of the state and in the office of the clerk of each municipal member for any multitown district or agency. The secretary or clerk shall cause any notice received under this section to be posted in his office. Such notice shall be given not less than twenty-four hours prior to the time of the special meeting; provided, in case of emergency, except for the General Assembly, either house thereof or any committee thereof, any such special meeting may be held without complying with the foregoing requirement for the filing of notice but a copy of the minutes of every such emergency special meeting adequately setting forth the nature of the emergency and the proceedings occurring at such meeting shall be filed with the Secretary of the State, the clerk of such political subdivision, or the clerk of each municipal member of such multitown district or agency, as the case may be, not later than seventytwo hours following the holding of such meeting. The notice shall (1)

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specify the time and place of the special meeting, [and] (2) specify the business to be transacted, and (3) include instructions for the public to, by means of electronic equipment or in person, attend and provide comment, vote or otherwise participate in the special meeting, as applicable and permitted by law. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require a public agency that conducts a meeting by means of electronic equipment to offer the opportunity for public comment or testimony, voting or other participation if the provision of such opportunity is not required by law. No other business shall be considered at such meetings by such public agency. In addition, such written notice shall be delivered by mail to the usual place of abode of or by electronic transmission to each member of the public agency so that the same is received prior to such special meeting. The requirement of delivery or transmission of such [written] notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the clerk or secretary of the public agency a written waiver of delivery or transmission of such notice. Such waiver may be given by [telegram] electronic transmission. The requirement of delivery or transmission of such [written] notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any agency from adopting more stringent notice requirements.

[(e)] (f) No member of the public shall be required, as a condition to attendance at a meeting of any such body, to register the member's name, or furnish other information, or complete a questionnaire or otherwise fulfill any condition precedent to the member's attendance, except in the event that a public agency determines that any such requirement is necessary to control public access to a meeting conducted by means of electronic equipment to ensure the orderly conduct of such meeting consistent with the provisions of section 1-232, as amended by this act.

(g) Any member of a public agency or the public who participates orally in a meeting of a public agency conducted by means of electronic equipment shall make a good faith effort to state such member's name

and title, if applicable, at the outset of each occasion that such member participates orally during an uninterrupted dialogue or series of questions and answers.

- [(f)] (h) A public agency may hold an executive session, as defined in subdivision (6) of section 1-200, as amended by this act, upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of such body present and voting, taken at a public meeting and stating the reasons for such executive session, as defined in section 1-200, as amended by this act.
- [(g)] (i) In determining the time within which or by when a notice, agenda, record of votes or minutes of a special meeting or an emergency special meeting are required to be filed under this section, Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays and any day on which the office of the agency, the Secretary of the State or the clerk of the applicable political subdivision or the clerk of each municipal member of any multitown district or agency, as the case may be, is closed, shall be excluded.
- Sec. 4. Section 1-227 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):
 - The public agency shall, where practicable, give notice by mail or electronic transmission of each regular meeting, and of any special meeting which is called, at least one week prior to the date set for the meeting, to any person who has filed a written request for such notice with such body, except that such body may give such notice as it deems practical of special meetings called less than seven days prior to the date set for the meeting. Such notice requirement shall not apply to the General Assembly, either house thereof or to any committee thereof. Any request for notice filed pursuant to this section shall be valid for one year from the date on which it is filed unless a renewal request is filed. Renewal requests for notice shall be filed within thirty days after January first of each year. Such public agency may establish a reasonable charge for sending such notice based on the estimated cost of providing such service.
- Sec. 5. Section 1-228 of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

The public agency may adjourn any regular or special meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a quorum may so adjourn from time to time. If all members are absent from any regular meeting the clerk or the secretary of such body may declare the meeting adjourned to a stated time and place and shall cause a written notice of the adjournment to be given in the same manner as provided in section 1-225, as amended by this act, for special meetings, unless such notice is waived as provided for special meetings. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the regular or special meeting was held and on the Internet web site of the public agency, if applicable, within twenty-four hours after the time of the adjournment. When an order of adjournment of any meeting fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified for regular meetings, by ordinance, resolution, by law or other rule.

Sec. 6. Section 7-7 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

All towns, when lawfully assembled for any purpose other than the election of town officers, and all societies and other municipal corporations when lawfully assembled, shall choose a moderator to preside at such meetings, unless otherwise provided by law; and, except as otherwise provided by law, all questions arising in such meetings shall be decided in accordance with standard parliamentary practice, and towns, societies and municipal corporations may, by ordinance, adopt rules of order for the conduct of their meetings. At any such town meeting the moderator shall be chosen from the last-completed registry list of such town. Two hundred or more persons or ten per cent of the total number qualified to vote in the meeting of a town or other municipal corporation, whichever is less, may petition the clerk or secretary of such town or municipal corporation, in writing, at least twenty-four hours prior to any such meeting, requesting that any item or items on the call of such meeting be submitted to the persons

qualified to vote in such meeting not less than seven nor more than fourteen days thereafter, on a day to be set by the town meeting or, if the town meeting does not set a date, by the town selectmen, for a vote by paper ballots or by a "Yes" or "No" vote on the voting machines, during the hours between twelve o'clock noon and eight o'clock p.m.; but any municipality may, any provision of any special act to the contrary notwithstanding, by vote of its legislative body provide for an earlier hour for opening the polls but not earlier than six o'clock a.m. The selectmen of the town may, not less than five days prior to the day of any such meeting, on their own initiative, remove any item on the call of such meeting for submission to the voters in the manner provided by this section or may submit any item which, in the absence of such a vote, could properly come before such a meeting to the voters at a date set for such vote or along with any other vote the date of which has been previously set. The paper ballots or voting machine ballot labels [, as the case may be, shall be provided by such clerk or secretary. When such a petition has been filed with such clerk or secretary, the moderator of such meeting, after completion of other business and after reasonable discussion, shall adjourn such meeting and order such vote on such item or items in accordance with the petition; and any item so voted may be rescinded in the same manner. If such moderator resigns or is for any other cause unable to serve as moderator at such adjourned meeting, such clerk or secretary shall serve, or may appoint an elector of such municipality to serve, as moderator of such adjourned meeting. Such clerk or secretary, as the case may be, shall phrase such item or items in a form suitable for printing on such paper ballots or ballot labels, or viewing, if such vote is taken by means of electronic equipment, as defined in section 1-200, as amended by this act, provided that the designation of any such item shall be in the form of a question, as prescribed under section 9-369. The vote on any item on the call of a town or other municipal corporation shall be taken by paper ballot if so voted at the meeting, if no petition has been filed under this section with reference to such item, except that any person attending the meeting by means of electronic equipment, as defined in section 1-200, as amended by this act, may be permitted to vote by such means, provided the

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613 moderator, clerk or secretary is able to see and hear such person and 614 authenticate that such person is eligible to vote pursuant to section 7-6.

Sec. 7. Section 7-8 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

The moderator of any town meeting, and of any meeting of any society or other community lawfully assembled, may, when any disorder arises in the meeting and the offender refuses to submit to the moderator's lawful authority, order any proper officer to take the offender into custody and, if necessary, to remove the offender from such meeting until the offender conforms to order or, if need be, until such meeting is closed, and thereupon such officer shall have power to command all necessary assistance. Any person refusing to assist when commanded shall be liable to the same penalties as for refusing to assist constables in the execution of their duties; but no person commanded to assist shall be deprived of such person's right to act in the meeting, nor shall the offender be so deprived any longer than the offender refuses to conform to order. If such offender is attending such meeting by means of electronic equipment, as defined in section 1-200, as amended by this act, the moderator may terminate such offender's attendance by electronic equipment until such time as the offender conforms to order or, if need be, until such meeting is closed.

Sec. 8. Section 1-232 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

In the event that any meeting of a public agency is interrupted by any person or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are wilfully interrupting the meetings, the members of the agency conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. If such person or group of persons is attending such meeting by means of electronic equipment, as defined in section 1-200, as amended by this act, the members of the public agency may terminate such person's or group of persons' attendance by electronic

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equipment until such time as such person or group of persons conforms to order or, if need be, until such meeting is closed. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Duly accredited representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit such public agency from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for wilfully disturbing the meeting.

Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section, "municipal board or commission" means any (1) board of selectmen, city council, town council, board of representatives, board of alderman, warden and burgesses, representative town meeting or equivalent legislative body, except for a town meeting; (2) local or regional board of education; (3) board of finance or equivalent board with budget-making authority; (4) zoning commission, combined planning and zoning commission or zoning board of appeals; (5) board of ethics; (6) charter revision commission; (7) police commission; (8) fire commission; or (9) inland wetlands commission or equivalent commission.

(b) On and after July 1, 2022, any executive branch state agency, except the offices of the Comptroller, State Treasurer, Attorney General and Secretary of the State, or municipal board or commission, whether meeting in person or by means of electronic equipment, shall make the meeting accessible to the public and members of such agency or municipal board or commission by means of electronic equipment. Any such meeting held by any such agency or municipal board or commission solely or in part by using electronic equipment shall comply with all applicable requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. Any such agency or municipal board or commission to participate using electronic equipment and shall post any such procedures on the Internet web site of the agency or municipal board or commission does not maintain an Internet web site, make such

procedures available for viewing at the place of business of the agency or municipal board or commission. Except as provided in section 1-232 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or other applicable law, such procedures shall not be construed to allow denial of access to any meeting to any person.

Sec. 10. (*Effective from passage*) The Connecticut Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations established pursuant to section 2-79a of the general statutes, shall, in consultation with the Freedom of Information Commission established pursuant to section 1-205 of the general statutes, and the Connecticut Association of Municipal Attorneys, conduct a study concerning the implementation of the provisions of section 9 of this act and sections 1-225 and 7-7 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and the feasibility of remote participation and voting during meetings, including remote voting using electronic equipment such as conference call, videoconference or other technology. Not later than February 1, 2022, the commission shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government administration and planning and development. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) findings, including any challenges encountered, (2) recommendations concerning best practices for the implementation of said provisions, and (3) an analysis of the feasibility of remote participation and voting during meetings using electronic equipment such as conference call, videoconference or other technology.

Sec. 11. Section 7-34a of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(NEW) (f) Any town clerk who receives a fee pursuant to this section may permit the payment of such fee on an Internet web site designated by the clerk, in a manner prescribed by the clerk.

710 Sec. 12. Section 7-51a of the general statutes is amended by adding

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- 711 subsection (e) as follows (Effective October 1, 2021):
- 712 (NEW) (e) Any registrar of vital statistics who receives payment
- 713 pursuant to this section may permit such payment to be made on an
- 714 Internet web site designated by the registrar, in a manner prescribed by
- 715 the registrar.
- Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) For the purposes of sections
- 717 7-148j, 7-148k, 7-148bb, 7-148ii and 7-152b of the general statutes, as
- amended by this act, "electronic equipment" means any technology that
- 719 facilitates real-time communication between two or more individuals,
- 720 including, but not limited to, telephonic, video and other conferencing
- 721 platforms.
- Sec. 14. Section 7-148j of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- Any board, commission, council, committee or other agency
- 725 established or designated pursuant to sections 7-148i to 7-148n,
- 726 inclusive, and subparagraph (B) of subdivision (9) of subsection (c) of
- section 7-148, may be given the following powers: (1) The power to issue
- 728 subpoenas or subpoenas duces tecum, enforceable upon application to
- 729 the Superior Court, to compel the attendance of persons at hearings
- either in person or by means of electronic equipment and the production
- of books, documents, records and papers; (2) the power to issue written
- 732 interrogatories and require written answers under oath thereto,
- enforceable upon application to the Superior Court; (3) the power to
- hold hearings relating to any allegation of discriminatory practice which
- it has found reasonable cause to believe has occurred and to issue any
- appropriate orders including those authorized by section 46a-86; and (4)
- the power to petition the Superior Court for enforcement of any order
- issued by it upon a finding that a violation of the local code of prohibited
- discriminatory practices has occurred, including the power to petition
- 740 the Superior Court for temporary injunctive relief upon a finding that
- 741 irreparable harm to the complainant will otherwise occur or for any
- other relief authorized by sections 46a-89 and 46a-90a.

Sec. 15. Section 7-148k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Any complaint filed pursuant to sections 7-148i to 7-148n, inclusive, and subparagraph (B) of subdivision (9) of subsection (c) of section 7-148 shall be made under oath. No finding of a violation of a local code of prohibited discriminatory practices shall be made except after a hearing conducted in person or by means of electronic equipment. The respondent at any such hearing shall be given reasonable advance written notice of the hearing, shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, and shall be permitted to testify and present and cross-examine witnesses. The decision resulting from the hearing shall be in writing and shall include written findings of the facts upon which the decision is based.

Sec. 16. Section 7-148bb of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any special act, municipal charter or home rule ordinance, the chief elected officials of two or more municipalities may initiate a process for such municipalities to enter into an agreement to share revenues received for payment of real and personal property taxes. The agreement shall be prepared pursuant to negotiations and shall contain all provisions on which there is mutual agreement between the municipalities, including, but not limited to, specification of the tax revenues to be shared, collection and uses of such shared revenue. The agreement shall establish procedures for amendment, termination and withdrawal. The negotiations shall include an opportunity for public participation. Such participation may take place in person, in writing or by means of electronic equipment. The agreement shall be approved by each municipality that is a party to the agreement by resolution of the legislative body. As used in this section "legislative body" means the council, commission, board, body or town meeting, by whatever name it may be known, having or exercising the general legislative powers and functions of a municipality and "municipality" means any town, city

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or borough, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough.

- Sec. 17. Section 7-148ii of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
 - (a) Any person who, on or after October 1, 2011, commences an action to foreclose a mortgage on residential property shall register such property with the town clerk of the municipality in which the property is located at the time and place of the recording of the notice of lis pendens as to the residential property being foreclosed in accordance with section 52-325. Such registration <u>may be completed electronically in a manner prescribed by such clerk and shall be maintained by the municipality separate and apart from the land records.</u>
 - (b) Registration made pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall contain (1) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the plaintiff in the foreclosure action and, if such plaintiff is an entity or an individual who resides out-of-state, the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of a direct contact in the state, provided such a direct contact is available; (2) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the person, local property maintenance company or other entity serving as such plaintiff's contact with the municipality for any matters concerning the residential property; and (3) the following heading in at least ten-point boldface capital letters: NOTICE TO MUNICIPALITY: REGISTRATION OF PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED. The plaintiff in the foreclosure action shall indicate on such registration whether it prefers to be contacted by first class mail or electronic mail and the preferred addresses for such communications. Such plaintiff shall report to the town clerk of the municipality in which the property is located, by mail, <u>electronic mail</u> or other form of delivery, any change in the information provided on the registration not later than thirty days following the date of the change of information. At the time of registration, such plaintiff shall pay a land record filing fee to the municipality as specified in section 7-34a, as amended by this act.

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(c) Any person in whom title to a residential property has vested on or after October 1, 2011, through a foreclosure action pursuant to sections 49-16 to 49-21, inclusive, or 49-26, shall register such property, in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, with the municipality in which such property is located not later than fifteen days after absolute title vests in such person. If such person is the plaintiff in the foreclosure action, such person shall, prior to the expiration of such fifteen-day period, update the registration with any change in registration information for purposes of complying with said subsection (d). The updated registration shall include the following heading in at least ten-point boldface capital letters: NOTICE TO MUNICIPALITY: UPDATED REGISTRATION FOR PROPERTY ACQUIRED THROUGH FORECLOSURE.

(d) Registration made pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be mailed, sent by electronic mail or delivered to the town clerk of the municipality in which the residential property is located and include (1) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the registrant and, if the registrant is an entity or an individual who resides out-of-state, the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of a direct contact in the state, provided such a direct contact is available; (2) the date on which absolute title vested in the registrant; (3) the name, address, telephone number and electronic mail address of the person, local property maintenance company or other entity responsible for the security and maintenance of the residential property; and (4) the following heading in at least ten-point boldface capital letters: NOTICE TO MUNICIPALITY: REGISTRATION OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED THROUGH FORECLOSURE. The registration, or updated registration, shall be accompanied by a land record filing fee payable to the municipality as specified in section 7-34a, as amended by this act. The registrant shall report to the town clerk by mail, electronic mail or other form of delivery any change in the information provided on the registration not later than thirty days from the date of the change in information.

(e) If a registrant required to register pursuant to subsection (c) of this

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section fails to comply with any provision of the general statutes or of any municipal ordinance concerning the repair or maintenance of real estate, including, without limitation, an ordinance relating to the prevention of housing blight pursuant to subparagraph (H)(xv) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section 7-148, the maintenance of safe and sanitary housing as provided in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section 7-148, or the abatement of nuisances as provided in subparagraph (E) of subdivision (7) of subsection (c) of section 7-148, the municipality may issue a notice to the registrant citing the conditions on such property that violate such provisions. Such notice shall be sent by either first class or electronic mail, or both, and shall be sent to the address or addresses of the registrant identified on the registration. A copy of such notice shall be sent by first class mail or electronic mail to the person, property maintenance company or other entity responsible for the security and maintenance of the residential property designated on the registration. Such notice shall comply with section 7-148gg.

- (f) The notice described in subsection (e) of this section shall provide a date, reasonable under the circumstances, by which the registrant shall remedy the condition or conditions on such registrant's property. If the registrant, registrant's contact or registrant's agent does not remedy the condition or conditions on such registrant's property before the date following the date specified in such notice, the municipality may enforce its rights under the relevant provisions of the general statutes or of any municipal ordinance.
- (g) A municipality shall only impose registration requirements upon registrants and plaintiffs in foreclosure actions in accordance with this section, except that any municipal registration requirements effective on or before October 1, 2009, shall remain effective.
- (h) Any plaintiff in a foreclosure action who fails to register in accordance with this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of one hundred dollars for each violation, up to a maximum of five thousand dollars. Each property for which there has been a failure to register shall

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876 constitute a separate violation.

(i) Any person in whom title to a residential property has vested on or after October 1, 2011, through a foreclosure action pursuant to sections 49-16 to 49-21, inclusive, or 49-26, and who has not registered in accordance with subsection (c) of this section within thirty days of absolute title vesting in such owner shall be subject to a civil penalty of two hundred fifty dollars for each violation, up to a maximum of twenty-five thousand dollars. Each property for which there has been a failure to register shall constitute a separate violation.

- (j) An authorized official of the municipality may file a civil action in Superior Court to collect the penalties imposed pursuant to subsections (h) and (i) of this section, which penalties shall be payable to the treasurer of such municipality. Such penalties shall not create or constitute a lien against the residential property.
- (k) Neither the registration by a foreclosing party nor the failure to register in accordance with subsection (a) of this section shall imply or create any legal obligations on the part of the foreclosing party to repair, maintain or secure the residential property for which a registration is required prior to the time that title passes to the foreclosing party.
- Sec. 18. Section 7-152b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- (a) Any town, city or borough may establish by ordinance a parking violation hearing procedure in accordance with this section. The Superior Court shall be authorized to enforce the assessments and judgments provided for under this section.
- (b) The chief executive officer of the town, city or borough shall appoint one or more parking violation hearing officers, other than policemen or persons who issue parking tickets or work in the police department, to conduct the hearings authorized by this section.
- 905 (c) A town, city or borough may, at any time within two years from

the expiration of the final period for the uncontested payment of fines, penalties, costs or fees for any alleged violation under any ordinance adopted pursuant to section 7-148 or sections 14-305 to 14-308, inclusive, send notice to the motor vehicle operator, if known, or the registered owner of the motor vehicle by first class mail at his address according to the registration records of the Department of Motor Vehicles or by electronic mail, if the operator or owner's electronic mail address is known. Such notice shall inform the operator or owner: (1) Of the allegations against him and the amount of the fines, penalties, costs or fees due; (2) that he may contest his liability before a parking violations hearing officer by delivering in person, by electronic mail or by mail written notice within ten days of the date thereof; (3) that if he does not demand such a hearing, an assessment and judgment shall enter against him; and (4) that such judgment may issue without further notice. Whenever a violation of such an ordinance occurs, proof of the registration number of the motor vehicle involved shall be prima facie evidence in all proceedings provided for in this section that the owner of such vehicle was the operator thereof; provided, the liability of a lessee under section 14-107 shall apply.

(d) If the person who is sent notice pursuant to subsection (c) of this section wishes to admit liability for any alleged violation, such person may, without requesting a hearing, pay the full amount of the fines, penalties, costs or fees admitted to in person or by mail to an official designated by the town, city or borough. Such payment shall be inadmissible in any proceeding, civil or criminal, to establish the conduct of such person or other person making the payment. Any person who does not [deliver or mail written demand for] demand a hearing within ten days of the date of the first notice provided for in subsection (c) of this section shall be deemed to have admitted liability, and the designated town official shall certify such person's failure to respond to the hearing officer. The hearing officer shall thereupon enter and assess the fines, penalties, costs or fees provided for by the applicable ordinances and shall follow the procedures set forth in subsection (f) of this section.

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(e) Any person who requests a hearing shall be given written notice of the date, time and place for the hearing. Such hearing shall be held not less than fifteen days nor more than thirty days from the date of the mailing of notice, provided the hearing officer shall grant upon good cause shown any reasonable request by any interested party for postponement or continuance. An original or certified copy of the initial notice of violation issued by a policeman or other issuing officer shall be filed and retained by the town, city or borough, be deemed to be a business record within the scope of section 52-180 and be evidence of the facts contained therein. The presence of the policeman or issuing officer shall be required at the hearing if such person so requests. A person wishing to contest his liability shall appear at the hearing in person or by means of electronic equipment, and may present evidence in his behalf. A designated town official, other than the hearing officer, may present evidence on behalf of the town. If such person fails to appear, the hearing officer may enter an assessment by default against him upon a finding of proper notice and liability under the applicable statutes or ordinances. The hearing officer may accept from such person copies of police reports, Department of Motor Vehicles documents and other official documents by mail and may determine thereby that the appearance of such person is unnecessary. The hearing officer shall conduct the hearing in the order and form and with such methods of proof as he deems fair and appropriate. The rules regarding the admissibility of evidence shall not be strictly applied, but all testimony shall be given under oath or affirmation. The hearing officer shall announce his decision at the end of the hearing. If he determines that the person is not liable, he shall dismiss the matter and enter his determination in writing accordingly. If he determines that the person is liable for the violation, he shall forthwith enter and assess the fines, penalties, costs or fees against such person as provided by the applicable ordinances of that town, city or borough.

(f) If such assessment is not paid on the date of its entry, the hearing officer shall send by first class mail a notice of the assessment to the person found liable and shall file, not less than thirty days or more than

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twelve months after such mailing, a certified copy of the notice of assessment with the clerk of a superior court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator together with an entry fee of eight dollars. The certified copy of the notice of assessment shall constitute a record of assessment. Within such twelve-month period, assessments against the same person may be accrued and filed as one record of assessment. The clerk shall enter judgment, in the amount of such record of assessment and court costs of eight dollars, against such person in favor of the town, city or borough. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the hearing officer's assessment, when so entered as a judgment, shall have the effect of a civil money judgment and a levy of execution on such judgment may issue without further notice to such person.

(g) A person against whom an assessment has been entered pursuant to this section is entitled to judicial review by way of appeal. An appeal shall be instituted within thirty days of the mailing of notice of such assessment by filing a petition to reopen assessment, together with an entry fee in an amount equal to the entry fee for a small claims case pursuant to section 52-259, at the Superior Court facility designated by the Chief Court Administrator, which shall entitle such person to a hearing in accordance with the rules of the judges of the Superior Court.

Sec. 19. Section 7-245 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

For the purposes of this chapter: (1) "Acquire a sewerage system" means obtain title to all or any part of a sewerage system or any interest therein by purchase, condemnation, grant, gift, lease, rental or otherwise; (2) "alternative sewage treatment system" means a sewage treatment system serving one or more buildings that utilizes a method of treatment other than a subsurface sewage disposal system and that involves a discharge to the groundwaters of the state; (3) "community sewerage system" means any sewerage system serving two or more residences in separate structures which is not connected to a municipal sewerage system or which is connected to a municipal sewerage system

as a distinct and separately managed district or segment of such system; (4) "construct a sewerage system" means to acquire land, easements, rights-of-way or any other real or personal property or any interest therein, plan, construct, reconstruct, equip, extend and enlarge all or any part of a sewerage system; (5) "decentralized system" means managed subsurface sewage disposal systems, managed alternative sewage treatment systems or community sewerage systems that discharge sewage flows of less than five thousand gallons per day, are used to collect and treat domestic sewage, and involve a discharge to the groundwaters of the state from areas of a municipality; (6) "decentralized wastewater management district" means areas of a municipality designated by the municipality through a municipal ordinance when an engineering report has determined that the existing subsurface sewage disposal systems may be detrimental to public health or the environment and that decentralized systems are required and such report is approved by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection with concurring approval by Commissioner of Public Health, after consultation with the local director of health; (7) "electronic equipment" means any technology that facilitates real-time communication between two or more individuals, including, but not limited to, telephonic, video and other conferencing platforms; (8) "municipality" means any metropolitan district, town, consolidated town and city, consolidated town and borough, city, borough, village, fire and sewer district, sewer district and each municipal organization having authority to levy and collect taxes; [(8)] (9) "operate a sewerage system" means own, use, equip, reequip, repair, maintain, supervise, manage, operate and perform any act pertinent to the collection, transportation and disposal of sewage; [(9)] (10) "person" means any person, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, association or public agency; [(10)] (11) "remediation standards" means pollutant limits, performance requirements, design parameters or technical standards for application to existing sewage discharges in a decentralized wastewater management district for the improvement of wastewater treatment to protect public health and the environment; [(11)] (12) "sewage" means any substance, liquid or solid, which may

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contaminate or pollute or affect the cleanliness or purity of any water; and [(12)] (13) "sewerage system" means any device, equipment, appurtenance, facility and method for collecting, transporting, receiving, treating, disposing of or discharging sewage, including, but not limited to, decentralized systems within a decentralized wastewater management district when such district is established by municipal ordinance pursuant to section 7-247.

Sec. 20. Section 7-255 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The water pollution control authority may establish and revise fair and reasonable charges for connection with and for the use of a sewerage system. The owner of property against which any such connection or use charge is levied shall be liable for the payment thereof. Municipally-owned and other tax-exempt property which uses the sewerage system shall be subject to such charges under the same conditions as are the owners of other property, but nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize the levying of any property tax by any municipality against any property exempt by the general statutes from property taxation. No charge for connection with or for the use of a sewerage system shall be established or revised until after a public hearing before the water pollution control authority at which the owner of property against which the charges are to be levied shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed charges. Such hearing may be conducted in person or by means of electronic equipment. Notice of the time, place and purpose of such hearing shall be published at least ten days before the date thereof in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality and on the Internet web site of the municipality. A copy of the proposed charges shall be on file in the office of the clerk of the municipality and available for inspection by the public for at least ten days before the date of such hearing. When the water pollution control authority has established or revised such charges, it shall file a copy thereof in the office of the clerk of the municipality and, not later than five days after such filing, shall cause the same to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the

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municipality and on the Internet web site of the municipality. Such publication shall state the date on which such charges were filed and the time and manner of paying such charges and shall state that any appeals from such charges must be taken within twenty-one days after such filing. In establishing or revising such charges the water pollution control authority may classify the property connected or to be connected with the sewer system and the users of such system, including categories of industrial users, and may give consideration to any factors relating to the kind, quality or extent of use of any such property or classification of property or users including, but not limited to, (1) the volume of water discharged to the sewerage system, (2) the type or size of building connected with the sewerage system, (3) the number of plumbing fixtures connected with the sewerage system, (4) the number of persons customarily using the property served by the sewerage system, (5) in the case of commercial or industrial property, the average number of employees and guests using the property and (6) the quality and character of the material discharged into the sewerage system. The water pollution control authority may establish minimum charges for connection with and for the use of a sewerage system. Any person aggrieved by any charge for connection with or for the use of a sewerage system may appeal to the superior court for the judicial district wherein the municipality is located and shall bring any such appeal to a return day of said court not less than twelve or more than thirty days after service thereof. The judgment of the court shall be final.

- (b) Any municipality may, by ordinance, provide for the payment to the water pollution control authority by such municipality of the whole or a portion of such charges for specified classifications of property or users, provided such classifications are established by the water pollution control authority in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section and meet the requirements of the federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, P.L. 92-500, as amended from time to time. [amended.]
- (c) Any municipality may, by ordinance, provide for optional methods of payment of sewer use charges to the water pollution control

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authority by (1) elderly taxpayers who are eligible for tax relief under the provisions of section 12-129b, section 12-170aa, as amended by this act, or a plan of tax relief for elderly taxpayers provided by such municipality in accordance with section 12-129n or (2) any taxpayer under the age of sixty-five who is eligible for tax relief under the provisions of a plan for tax relief provided by such municipality in accordance with subdivision (2) of section 12-129n.

- Sec. 21. Section 7-257 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- 1119 The water pollution control authority may order the owner of any 1120 building to which a sewerage system is available to connect such 1121 building with the system or order the owner to construct and connect 1122 the building to an alternative sewage treatment system. No such order 1123 shall be issued until after a public hearing with respect thereto is 1124 conducted in person or by means of electronic equipment after due 1125 notice in writing to such property owner. Any owner aggrieved by such 1126 an order may, within twenty-one days, appeal to the superior court for 1127 the judicial district wherein the municipality is located. Such appeal 1128 shall be brought to a return day of said court not less than twelve or 1129 more than thirty days after service thereof. The judgment of the court 1130 shall be final. If any owner fails to comply with an order to connect, the 1131 water pollution control authority shall cause the connection to be made 1132 and shall assess the expense thereof against such owner.
- Sec. 22. Section 12-111 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
 - (a) Any person, including any lessee of real property whose lease has been recorded as provided in section 47-19 and who is bound under the terms of a lease to pay real property taxes and any person to whom title to such property has been transferred since the assessment date, claiming to be aggrieved by the doings of the assessors of such town may appeal therefrom to the board of assessment appeals. Such appeal shall be filed [,] in writing [,] or by electronic mail in a manner prescribed

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by such board on or before February twentieth. The [written] appeal 1142 1143 shall include, but is not limited to, the property owner's name, name and 1144 position of the signer, description of the property which is the subject of 1145 the appeal, name, [and] mailing address and electronic mail address of 1146 the party to be sent all correspondence by the board of assessment 1147 appeals, reason for the appeal, appellant's estimate of value, signature 1148 of property owner, or duly authorized agent of the property owner, and 1149 date of signature. The board shall notify each aggrieved taxpayer who 1150 filed [a written] an appeal in the proper form and in a timely manner, 1151 no later than March first immediately following the assessment date, of 1152 the date, time and place of the appeal hearing. Such notice shall be sent 1153 no later than seven calendar days preceding the hearing date except that 1154 the board may elect not to conduct an appeal hearing for any 1155 commercial, industrial, utility or apartment property with an assessed 1156 value greater than one million dollars. The board shall, not later than 1157 March first, notify the appellant that the board has elected not to conduct an appeal hearing. An appellant whose appeal will not be heard 1158 1159 by the board may appeal directly to the Superior Court pursuant to 1160 section 12-117a. The board shall determine all appeals for which the 1161 board conducts an appeal hearing and send written notification of the 1162 final determination of such appeals to each such person within one week 1163 after such determination has been made. Such written notification shall 1164 include information describing the property owner's right to appeal the 1165 determination of such board. Such board may equalize and adjust the 1166 grand list of such town and may increase or decrease the assessment of 1167 any taxable property or interest therein and may add an assessment for 1168 property omitted by the assessors which should be added thereto; and 1169 may add to the grand list the name of any person omitted by the 1170 assessors and owning taxable property in such town, placing therein all 1171 property liable to taxation which it has reason to believe is owned by 1172 such person, at the percentage of its actual valuation, as determined by 1173 the assessors in accordance with the provisions of sections 12-64 and 12-1174 71, from the best information that it can obtain, and if such property 1175 should have been included in the declaration, as required by section 12-42 or 12-43, it shall add thereto twenty-five per cent of such assessment; 1176

but, before proceeding to increase the assessment of any person or to add to the grand list the name of any person so omitted, it shall mail to such person, postage paid, at least one week before making such increase or addition, a written or printed notice addressed to such person at the town in which such person resides, to appear before such board and show cause why such increase or addition should not be made. When the board increases or decreases the gross assessment of any taxable real property or interest therein, the amount of such gross assessment shall be fixed until the assessment year in which the municipality next implements a revaluation of all real property pursuant to section 12-62, unless the assessor increases or decreases the gross assessment of the property to (1) comply with an order of a court of jurisdiction, (2) reflect an addition for new construction, (3) reflect a reduction for damage or demolition, or (4) correct a factual error by issuance of a certificate of correction. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, if, prior to the next revaluation, the assessor increases or decreases a gross assessment established by the board for any other reason, the assessor shall submit a written explanation to the board setting forth the reason for such increase or decrease. The assessor shall also append the written explanation to the property card for the real estate parcel whose gross assessment was increased or decreased.

(b) If an extension is granted to any assessor or board of assessors pursuant to section 12-117, as amended by this act, the date by which a taxpayer shall be required to submit a [written] request for appeal to the board of assessment appeals shall be extended to March twentieth and said board shall conduct hearings regarding such requests during the month of April. The board shall send notification to the taxpayer of the time and date of an appeal hearing at least seven calendar days preceding the hearing date, but no later than the first day of April. If the board elects not to hear an appeal for commercial, industrial, utility or apartment property described in subsection (a) of this section, the board shall notify the taxpayer of such decision no later than the first day of April.

1210 Sec. 23. Section 12-117 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) The period prescribed by law for the completion of the duties of any assessor, board of assessors or board of assessment appeals may, for due cause shown, be extended by the chief executive officer of the town for a period not exceeding one month, and in the case of the board of assessment appeals in any town in the assessment year in which a revaluation, pursuant to section 12-62, is required to be effective, such period shall be extended by said chief executive officer for a period not exceeding two months. Not later than two weeks after granting an extension as provided under this subsection, the chief executive officer shall send [written] notice of the extension to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management by mail or electronic mail in a manner prescribed by the secretary.

(b) If, in the assessment year in which a revaluation is required to be effective, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management determines, on the basis of information provided [, in writing,] by the board of assessment appeals and the chief executive officer, that the number of appeals pending before such board is such as to preclude fair and equitable consideration of such appeals within the extended period of time provided under subsection (a) of this section, the secretary may authorize a postponement of the implementation of said revaluation until the assessment day next ensuing. If the secretary authorizes such postponement, the town shall not be subject to the penalty provisions of subsection (d) of section 12-62. Upon receipt of the secretary's notice of authorization, the assessor shall revise the real property grand list for the assessment year with respect to which such postponement is applicable, to reflect assessments for such property effective in the assessment year immediately preceding. The real property grand list from which such appeals are taken shall then become the real property grand list for the assessment day next ensuing, subject only to transfers of ownership, additions for new construction, reductions for demolitions and such adjustments as are authorized by the board of assessment appeals, unless the assessor revalues all real property for said assessment day in accordance with section 12-62. The secretary

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shall not grant an authorization to a town, pursuant to this subsection, in consecutive years.

- (c) During any assessment year in which the provisions of subsection (b) of this section become applicable, the assessor or board of assessors shall, not later than thirty days after the date on which the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management authorizes the postponement of revaluation, complete the grand list as required by subsection (b) of this section. An increase notice shall be prepared in the manner prescribed by section 12-55, and, [mailed,] not later than the tenth day after the completion of said grand list, mailed or sent by electronic mail to each owner whose property valuation on said grand list increased above the valuation of such property in the last-preceding assessment year. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 12-112, any owner may appeal such increase to the board of assessment appeals not later than thirty days after the date of such notice. If the assessor or board of assessors fails to comply with the notice requirements in this subsection, any such increase shall not take effect until the next succeeding assessment date.
- Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 12-170f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2021):
 - (a) Any renter, believing himself or herself to be entitled to a grant under section 12-170d for any calendar year, shall apply for such grant to the assessor of the municipality in which the renter resides or to the duly authorized agent of such assessor or municipality on or after April first and not later than October first of each year with respect to such grant for the calendar year preceding each such year. [,] Such application shall be made on a form prescribed and furnished by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management [to the assessor] or electronically in a manner prescribed by the secretary. Municipalities that require notarization of a landlord verification of property rental on an application under this section (1) shall exempt a renter from the requirement if a landlord verification for the same property rental by

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the same renter has been previously notarized, and (2) shall not delay submission of the application of an otherwise qualified renter to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management if the renter fails to meet the deadline for notarizing such landlord verification. A renter may apply to the secretary prior to December fifteenth of the claim year for an extension of the application period. The secretary may grant such extension in the case of extenuating circumstance due to illness or incapacitation as evidenced by a certificate signed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse to that extent, or if the secretary determines there is good cause for doing so. A renter making such application shall present to such assessor or agent, in substantiation of the renter's application, a copy of the renter's federal income tax return, and if not required to file a federal income tax return, such other evidence of qualifying income, receipts for money received, or cancelled checks, or copies thereof, and any other evidence the assessor or such agent may require. When the assessor or agent is satisfied that the applying renter is entitled to a grant, such assessor or agent shall issue a certificate of grant in such form as the secretary may prescribe and supply showing the amount of the grant due.

Sec. 25. Section 12-170g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

Any person aggrieved by the action of the assessor or agent in fixing the amount of the grant under section 12-170f, as amended by this act, or in disapproving the claim therefor may apply to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management in writing or electronically in a manner prescribed by the secretary, within thirty business days from the date of notice given to such person by the assessor or agent, giving notice of such grievance. The secretary shall promptly consider such notice and may grant or deny the relief requested, provided such decision shall be made not later than thirty business days after the receipt of such notice. If the relief is denied, the applicant shall be notified forthwith, and the applicant may appeal the decision of the secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 12-120b.

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Sec. 26. Subsection (a) of section 12-170w of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1313 1, 2021):

(a) No claim shall be accepted under section 12-170v unless the taxpayer or authorized agent of such taxpayer files an application with the assessor of the municipality in which the property is located, [in such form and manner as the assessor may prescribe, during the period from February first to and including May fifteenth of any year in which benefits are first claimed. [, including] Such application shall be made in writing or electronically in a manner prescribed by the assessor, and shall include such information as is necessary to substantiate such claim in accordance with requirements in such application. A taxpayer may make application to the assessor in writing or electronically in a manner <u>prescribed by the assessor</u> prior to August fifteenth of the claim year for an extension of the application period. The assessor may grant such extension in the case of extenuating circumstance due to illness or incapacitation as evidenced by a certificate signed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse to that extent, or if the assessor determines there is good cause for doing so. The taxpayer shall present to the assessor a paper or electronic copy of such taxpayer's federal income tax return and the federal income tax return of such taxpayer's spouse, if filed separately, for such taxpayer's taxable year ending immediately prior to the submission of the taxpayer's application, or if not required to file a federal income tax return, such other evidence of qualifying income in respect to such taxable year as the assessor may require. Each such application, together with the federal income tax return and any other information submitted in relation thereto, shall be examined by the assessor and a determination shall be made as to whether the application is approved. Upon determination by the assessor that the applying homeowner is entitled to tax relief in accordance with the provisions of section 12-170v and this section, the assessor shall notify the homeowner and the municipal tax collector of the approval of such application. The municipal tax collector shall determine the maximum amount of the tax due with respect to such

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homeowner's residence and thereafter the property tax with respect to such homeowner's residence shall not exceed such amount. After a taxpayer's claim for the first year has been filed and approved such taxpayer shall file such an application biennially. In respect to such application required after the filing and approval for the first year the assessor in each municipality shall notify each such taxpayer concerning application requirements by [regular] mail, or, at the taxpayer's option, electronic mail, not later than February first of the assessment year in which such taxpayer is required to reapply, [enclosing] providing a copy of the required application form. Such taxpayer may submit such application to the assessor, [by mail,] provided it is received by the assessor not later than April fifteenth in the assessment year with respect to which such tax relief is claimed. Not later than April thirtieth of such year the assessor shall notify, by mail evidenced by a certificate of mailing, any such taxpayer for whom such application was not received by said April fifteenth concerning application requirements and such taxpayer shall submit not later than May fifteenth such application personally, or for reasonable cause, by a person acting on behalf of such taxpayer as approved by the assessor.

- Sec. 27. Section 12-170aa of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):
- (a) There is established, for the assessment year commencing October 1, 1985, and each assessment year thereafter, a revised state program of property tax relief for certain elderly homeowners as determined in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, and additionally for the assessment year commencing October 1, 1986, and each assessment year thereafter, the property tax relief benefits of such program are made available to certain homeowners who are permanently and totally disabled as determined in accordance with said subsection (b) of this section.
- (b) (1) The program established by this section shall provide for a reduction in property tax, except in the case of benefits payable as a grant under certain circumstances in accordance with provisions in

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subsection (j) of this section, applicable to the assessed value of certain real property, determined in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, for any (A) owner of real property, including any owner of real property held in trust for such owner, provided such owner or such owner and such owner's spouse are the grantor and beneficiary of such trust, (B) tenant for life or tenant for a term of years liable for property tax under section 12-48, or (C) resident of a multiple-dwelling complex under certain contractual conditions as provided in said subsection (j) of this section, who (i) at the close of the preceding calendar year has attained age sixty-five or over, or whose spouse domiciled with such homeowner, has attained age sixty-five or over at the close of the preceding calendar year, or is fifty years of age or over and the surviving spouse of a homeowner who at the time of his death had qualified and was entitled to tax relief under this section, provided such spouse was domiciled with such homeowner at the time of his death or (ii) at the close of the preceding calendar year has not attained age sixty-five and is eligible in accordance with applicable federal regulations to receive permanent total disability benefits under Social Security, or has not been engaged in employment covered by Social Security and accordingly has not qualified for benefits thereunder but who has become qualified for permanent total disability benefits under any federal, state or local government retirement or disability plan, including the Railroad Retirement Act and any government-related teacher's retirement plan, determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management to contain requirements in respect to qualification for such permanent total disability benefits which are comparable to such requirements under Social Security; and in addition to qualification under (i) or (ii) above, whose taxable and nontaxable income, the total of which shall hereinafter be called "qualifying income", in the tax year of such homeowner ending immediately preceding the date of application for benefits under the program in this section, was not in excess of sixteen thousand two hundred dollars, if unmarried, or twenty thousand dollars, jointly with spouse if married, subject to adjustments in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection, evidence of which income shall be required in the form of a signed affidavit to be submitted

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to the assessor in the municipality in which application for benefits under this section is filed. Such affidavit may be filed electronically, in a manner prescribed by the assessor. The amount of any Medicaid payments made on behalf of such homeowner or the spouse of such homeowner shall not constitute income. The amount of tax reduction provided under this section, determined in accordance with and subject to the variable factors in the schedule of amounts of tax reduction in subsection (c) of this section, shall be allowed only with respect to a residential dwelling owned by such qualified homeowner and used as such homeowner's primary place of residence. If title to real property or a tenancy interest liable for real property taxes is recorded in the name of such qualified homeowner or his spouse making a claim and qualifying under this section and any other person or persons, the claimant hereunder shall be entitled to pay his fractional share of the tax on such property calculated in accordance with the provisions of this section, and such other person or persons shall pay his or their fractional share of the tax without regard for the provisions of this section, unless also qualified hereunder. For the purposes of this section, a "mobile manufactured home", as defined in section 12-63a, or a dwelling on leased land, including but not limited to a modular home, shall be deemed to be real property and the word "taxes" shall not include special assessments, interest and lien fees.

(2) The amounts of qualifying income as provided in this section shall be adjusted annually in a uniform manner to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security income, with each such adjustment of qualifying income determined to the nearest one hundred dollars. Each such adjustment of qualifying income shall be prepared by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management in relation to the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security, if any, becoming effective at any time during the twelve-month period immediately preceding the first day of October each year and the amount of such adjustment shall be distributed to the assessors in each municipality not later than the thirty-first day of December next following.

(3) For purposes of determining qualifying income under subdivision

(1) of this subsection with respect to a married homeowner who submits an application for tax reduction in accordance with this section, the Social Security income of the spouse of such homeowner shall not be included in the qualifying income of such homeowner, for purposes of determining eligibility for benefits under this section, if such spouse is a resident of a health care or nursing home facility in this state receiving payment related to such spouse under the Title XIX Medicaid program. An applicant who is legally separated pursuant to the provisions of section 46b-40, as of the thirty-first day of December preceding the date on which such person files an application for a grant in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, may apply as an unmarried person and shall be regarded as such for purposes of determining qualifying income under said subsection.

(c) The amount of reduction in property tax provided under this section shall, subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, be determined in accordance with the following schedule:

T1	Qualifying Income		ying Income	Tax Reduction	Tax Reduction	
T2				As Percentage	For An	y Year
T3	Ov	ver	Not Exceeding	Of Property Tax		
T4	M	arrie	d Homeowners		Maximum	Minimum
T5	\$	0	\$11,700	50%	\$1,250	\$400
T6	11,70	00	15,900	40	1,000	350
T7	15,90	00	19,700	30	750	250
T8	19,70	00	23,600	20	500	150
T9	23,60	00	28,900	10	250	150
T10	28,90	00		None		
T11	Unn	narrie	ed Homeowners			
T12	\$	0	\$11,700	40%	\$1,000	\$350
T13	11,7	700	15,900	30	750	250
T14	15,9	900	19,700	20	500	150
T15	19,7	700	23,600	10	250	150
T16	23,6	500		None		

(d) Any homeowner qualified for tax reduction in accordance with subsection (b) of this section in an amount to be determined under the schedule of such tax reduction in subsection (c) of this section, shall in no event receive less in tax reduction than the minimum amount of such reduction applicable to the qualifying income of such homeowner according to the schedule in said subsection (c).

(e) Any claim for tax reduction under this section shall be submitted for approval, on the application form prepared for such purpose by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in the first year claim for such tax relief is filed and biennially thereafter. Such application form may be submitted by mail or electronic mail, in a manner <u>prescribed by the secretary.</u> The amount of tax reduction approved shall be applied to the real property tax payable by the homeowner for the assessment year in which such application is submitted and approved. If any such homeowner has qualified for tax reduction under this section, the tax reduction determined shall, when possible, be applied and prorated uniformly over the number of installments in which the real property tax is due and payable to the municipality in which he resides. In the case of any homeowner who is eligible for tax reduction under this section as a result of increases in qualifying income, effective with respect to the assessment year commencing October 1, 1987, under the schedule of qualifying income and tax reduction in subsection (c) of this section, exclusive of any such increases related to social security adjustments in accordance with subsection (b) of this section, the total amount of tax reduction to which such homeowner is entitled shall be credited and uniformly prorated against property tax installment payments applicable to such homeowner's residence which become due after such homeowner's application for tax reduction under this section is accepted. In the event that a homeowner has paid in full the amount of property tax applicable to such homeowner's residence, regardless of whether the municipality requires the payment of property taxes in one or more installments, such municipality shall make payment to such homeowner in the amount of the tax reduction allowed. The

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municipality shall be reimbursed for the amount of such payment in accordance with subsection (g) of this section. In respect to such application required biennially after the filing and approval for the first year, the tax assessor in each municipality shall notify each such homeowner concerning application requirements by [regular] mail or, at such homeowner's option, electronic mail, not later than February first, annually enclosing a copy of the required application form. Such homeowner may submit such application to the assessor by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, provided it is received by the assessor not later than April fifteenth in the assessment year with respect to which such tax reduction is claimed. Not later than April thirtieth of such year the assessor shall notify, by mail evidenced by a certificate of mailing, any such homeowner for whom such application was not received by said April fifteenth concerning application requirements and such homeowner shall be required not later than May fifteenth to submit such application personally or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, or, for reasonable cause, by a person acting on behalf of such taxpayer as approved by the assessor. In the year immediately following any year in which such homeowner has submitted application and qualified for tax reduction in accordance with this section, such homeowner shall be presumed, without filing application therefor, to be qualified for tax reduction in accordance with the schedule in subsection (c) of this section in the same percentage of property tax as allowed in the year immediately preceding. If any homeowner has qualified and received tax reduction under this section and subsequently in any calendar year has qualifying income in excess of the maximum described in this section, such homeowner shall notify the tax assessor by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, on or before the next filing date and shall be denied tax reduction under this section for the assessment year and any subsequent year or until such homeowner has reapplied and again qualified for benefits under this section. Any such person who fails to so notify the tax assessor of his disqualification shall refund all amounts of tax reduction improperly taken and be fined not more than five hundred dollars.

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(f) Any homeowner, believing such homeowner is entitled to tax reduction benefits under this section for any assessment year, shall make application as required in subsection (e) of this section, to the assessor of the municipality in which the homeowner resides, for such tax reduction at any time from February first to and including May fifteenth of the year in which tax reduction is claimed. A homeowner may make application to the secretary prior to August fifteenth of the claim year for an extension of the application period. The secretary may grant such extension in the case of extenuating circumstance due to illness or incapacitation as evidenced by a certificate signed by a physician or an advanced practice registered nurse to that extent, or if the secretary determines there is good cause for doing so. Such application for tax reduction benefits shall be submitted on a form prescribed and furnished by the secretary to the assessor. In making application the homeowner shall present to such assessor, in substantiation of such homeowner's application, a copy of such homeowner's federal income tax return, including a copy of the Social Security statement of earnings for such homeowner, and that of such homeowner's spouse, if filed separately, for such homeowner's taxable year ending immediately prior to the submission of such application, or if not required to file a return, such other evidence of qualifying income in respect to such taxable year as may be required by the assessor. When the assessor is satisfied that the applying homeowner is entitled to tax reduction in accordance with this section, such assessor shall issue a certificate of credit, in such form as the secretary may prescribe and supply showing the amount of tax reduction allowed. A duplicate of such certificate shall be delivered to the applicant and the tax collector of the municipality and the assessor shall keep the fourth copy of such certificate and a copy of the application. Any homeowner who, for the purpose of obtaining a tax reduction under this section, wilfully fails to disclose all matters related thereto or with intent to defraud makes false statement shall refund all property tax credits improperly taken and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars. Applications filed under this section shall not be open for public inspection.

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(g) On or before July first, annually, each municipality shall submit to the secretary a claim for the tax reductions approved under this section in relation to the assessment list of October first immediately preceding. On or after December 1, 1987, any municipality that neglects to transmit to the secretary the claim as required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the state, except that the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance with procedures and standards established by regulations adopted in accordance with chapter 54. Subject to procedures for review and approval of such data pursuant to section 12-120b, said secretary shall, on or before December fifteenth next following, certify to the Comptroller the amount due each municipality as reimbursement for loss of property tax revenue related to the tax reductions allowed under this section, except that the secretary may reduce the amount due as reimbursement under this section by up to one hundred per cent for any municipality that is not eligible for a grant under section 32-9s. The Comptroller shall draw an order on the Treasurer on or before the fifth business day following December fifteenth and the Treasurer shall pay the amount due each municipality not later than the thirty-first day of December. Any claimant aggrieved by the results of the secretary's review shall have the rights of appeal as set forth in section 12-120b. The amount of the grant payable to each municipality in any year in accordance with this section shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount appropriated for the purposes of this section with respect to such year.

(h) Any person who is the owner of a residential dwelling on leased land, including any such person who is a sublessee under terms of the lease agreement applicable to such land, shall be entitled to claim tax relief under the provisions of this section, subject to all requirements therein except as provided in this subdivision, with respect to property taxes paid by such person on the assessed value of such dwelling, provided (1) the dwelling is such person's principal place of residence, (2) such lease or sublease requires that such person as the lessee or sublessee, whichever is applicable, pay all property taxes related to the

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dwelling and (3) such lease or sublease is recorded in the land records of the town.

(i) If any person with respect to whom a claim for tax reduction in accordance with this section has been approved for any assessment year transfers, assigns, grants or otherwise conveys on or after the first day of October but prior to the first day of August in such assessment year the interest in real property to which such claim for tax credit is related, regardless of whether such transfer, assignment, grant or conveyance is voluntary or involuntary, the amount of such tax credit shall be a pro rata portion of the amount otherwise applicable in such assessment year to be determined by a fraction the numerator of which shall be the number of full months from the first day of October in such assessment year to the date of such conveyance and the denominator of which shall be twelve. If such conveyance occurs in the month of October the grantor shall be disqualified for tax credit in such assessment year. The grantee shall be required within a period not exceeding ten days immediately following the date of such conveyance to notify the assessor thereof by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, or in the absence of such notice, upon determination by the assessor that such transfer, assignment, grant or conveyance has occurred, the assessor shall (1) determine the amount of tax reduction to which the grantor is entitled for such assessment year with respect to the interest in real property conveyed and notify the tax collector of the reduced amount of tax reduction applicable to such interest and (2) notify the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management on or before the October first immediately following the end of the assessment year in which such conveyance occurs of the reduction in such tax reduction for purposes of a corresponding adjustment in the amount of state payment to the municipality next following as reimbursement for the revenue loss related to such tax reductions. On or after December 1, 1987, any municipality which neglects to transmit to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management the claim as required by this section shall forfeit two hundred fifty dollars to the state provided the secretary may waive such forfeiture in accordance with procedures and standards

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established by regulations adopted in accordance with chapter 54. Upon receipt of such notice from the assessor, the tax collector shall, if such notice is received after the tax due date in the municipality, within ten days thereafter mail, [or] hand or deliver by electronic mail, at the grantee's option, a bill to the grantee stating the additional amount of tax due as determined by the assessor. Such tax shall be due and payable and collectible as other property taxes and subject to the same liens and processes of collection, provided such tax shall be due and payable in an initial or single installment not sooner than thirty days after the date such bill is mailed or handed to the grantee and in equal amounts in any remaining, regular installments as the same are due and payable.

(i) (1) Notwithstanding the intent in subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section to provide for benefits in the form of property tax reduction applicable to persons liable for payment of such property tax and qualified in accordance with requirements related to age and income as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a certain annual benefit, determined in amount under the provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of this section but payable in a manner as prescribed in this subsection, shall be provided with respect to any person who (A) is qualified in accordance with said requirements related to age and income as provided in subsection (b) of this section, including provisions concerning such person's spouse, and (B) is a resident of a dwelling unit within a multiple-dwelling complex containing dwelling units for occupancy by certain elderly persons under terms of a contract between such resident and the owner of such complex, in accordance with which contract such resident occupies a certain dwelling unit subject to the express provision that such resident has no legal title, interest or leasehold estate in the real or personal property of such complex, and under the terms of which contract such resident agrees to pay the owner of the complex a fee, as a condition precedent to occupancy and a monthly or other such periodic fee thereafter as a condition of continued occupancy. In no event shall any such resident be qualified for benefits payable in accordance with this subsection if, as determined by the assessor in the municipality in which such complex

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is situated, such resident's contract with the owner of such complex, or occupancy by such resident (i) confers upon such resident any ownership interest in the dwelling unit occupied or in such complex, or (ii) establishes a contract of lease of any type for the dwelling unit occupied by such resident.

(2) The amount of annual benefit payable in accordance with this subsection to any such resident, qualified as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection, shall be determined in relation to an assumed amount of property tax liability applicable to the assessed value for the dwelling unit which such resident occupies, as determined by the assessor in the municipality in which such complex is situated. Annually, not later than the first day of June, the assessor in such municipality, upon receipt of an application for such benefit submitted in accordance with this subsection by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, by any such resident, shall determine, with respect to the assessment list in such municipality for the assessment year commencing October first immediately preceding, the portion of the assessed value of the entire complex, as included in such assessment list, attributable to the dwelling unit occupied by such resident. The assumed property tax liability for purposes of this subsection shall be the product of such assessed value and the mill rate in such municipality as determined for purposes of property tax imposed on said assessment list for the assessment year commencing October first immediately preceding. The amount of benefit to which such resident shall be entitled for such assessment year shall be equivalent to the amount of tax reduction for which such resident would qualify, considering such assumed property tax liability to be the actual property tax applicable to such resident's dwelling unit and such resident as liable for the payment of such tax, in accordance with the schedule of qualifying income and tax reduction as provided in subsection (c) of this section, subject to provisions concerning maximum allowable benefit for any assessment year under subsections (c) and (d) of this section. The amount of benefit as determined for such resident in respect to any assessment year shall be payable by the state as a grant to such resident

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equivalent to the amount of property tax reduction to which such resident would be entitled under subsections (a) to (i), inclusive, of this section if such resident were the owner of such dwelling unit and qualified for tax reduction benefits under said subsections (a) to (i), inclusive.

(3) Any such resident entitled to a grant as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be required to submit an application to the assessor in the municipality in which such resident resides for such grant [to] by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the assessor, [in the municipality in which such resident resides] at any time from February first to and including the fifteenth day of May in the year in which such grant is claimed, on a form prescribed and furnished for such purpose by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. Any such resident submitting an application for such grant shall be required to present to the assessor, in substantiation of such application, a copy of such resident's federal income tax return, and if not required to file a federal income tax return, such other evidence of qualifying income, receipts for money received or cancelled checks, or copies thereof, and any other evidence the assessor may require. Not later than the first day of July in such year, the assessor shall submit to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (A) a copy of the application prepared by such resident, together with such resident's federal income tax return, if required to file such a return, and any other information submitted in relation thereto, (B) determinations of the assessor concerning the assessed value of the dwelling unit in such complex occupied by such resident, and (C) the amount of such grant approved by the assessor. Said secretary, upon approving such grant, shall certify the amount thereof and not later than the fifteenth day of September immediately following submit approval for payment of such grant to the State Comptroller. Not later than five business days immediately following receipt of such approval for payment, the State Comptroller shall draw his or her order upon the State Treasurer and the Treasurer shall pay the amount of the grant to such resident not later than the first day of October immediately following.

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(k) If the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management makes any adjustments to the grants for tax reductions or assumed amounts of property tax liability claimed under this section subsequent to the Comptroller the payment of said grants in any year, the amount of such adjustment shall be reflected in the next payment the Treasurer shall make to such municipality pursuant to this section.

- Sec. 28. Section 12-170cc of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- Any person aggrieved by the action of the assessor or assessors in fixing the amount of a credit under subsection (f) of section 12-170aa, as amended by this act, or in disapproving the claim therefor may appeal to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the secretary, within thirty business days from the date of notice given to such person by the assessor or assessors, giving notice of such grievance. The secretary shall promptly consider such notice and may grant or deny the relief requested, provided such decision shall be made not later than thirty business days after the receipt of such notice. If the relief is denied, the applicant shall be notified forthwith and may appeal the decision of the secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 12-120b.
- Sec. 29. Subsection (a) of section 29-263 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1757 1, 2021):
 - (a) Except as provided in subsection (h) of section 29-252a and the State Building Code adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of section 29-252, after October 1, 1970, no building or structure shall be constructed or altered until an application has been filed with the building official and a permit issued. Such application shall be filed in person, by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the building official. Such permit shall be issued or refused, in whole or in part, within thirty days after the date of an application. No permit shall be issued except upon application of the owner of the premises affected or the owner's

authorized agent. No permit shall be issued to a contractor who is required to be registered pursuant to chapter 400, for work to be performed by such contractor, unless the name, business address and Department of Consumer Protection registration number of such contractor is clearly marked on the application for the permit, and the contractor has presented such contractor's certificate of registration as a home improvement contractor. Prior to the issuance of a permit and within said thirty-day period, the building official shall review the plans of buildings or structures to be constructed or altered, including, but not limited to, plans prepared by an architect licensed pursuant to chapter 390, a professional engineer licensed pursuant to chapter 391 or an interior designer registered pursuant to chapter 396a acting within the scope of such license or registration, to determine their compliance with the requirements of the State Building Code and, where applicable, the local fire marshal shall review such plans to determine their compliance with the Fire Safety Code. Such plans submitted for review shall be in substantial compliance with the provisions of the State Building Code and, where applicable, with the provisions of the Fire Safety Code.

Sec. 30. Section 29-264 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

The State Building Inspector may, upon application by a builder setting forth that a set of plans and specifications will be utilized in more than one municipality to acquire building permits, review and approve any set of plans and specifications for the construction or erection of any building or structure designed to provide dwelling space for not more than two families if such set of plans and specifications meet the requirements of the State Building Code. Any building official shall issue a building permit upon application by a builder and presentation to him of such a set of plans and specifications bearing the approval of the State Building Inspector if all other local ordinances are complied with. Such application may be delivered in person, by mail or electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the building official.

1799 Sec. 31. Section 29-266 of the general statutes is repealed and the

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following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(a) A board of appeals shall be appointed by each municipality. Such board shall consist of five members, all of whom shall meet the qualifications set forth in the State Building Code. A member of a board of appeals of one municipality may also be a member of the board of appeals of another municipality.

(b) When the building official rejects or refuses to approve the mode or manner of construction proposed to be followed or the materials to be used in the erection or alteration of a building or structure, or when it is claimed that the provisions of the code do not apply or that an equally good or more desirable form of construction can be employed in a specific case, or when it is claimed that the true intent and meaning of the code and regulations have been misconstrued or wrongly interpreted, or when the building official issues a written order under subsection (c) of section 29-261, the owner of such building or structure, whether already erected or to be erected, or his authorized agent may appeal in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the board of appeals, from the decision of the building official to the board of appeals. When a person other than such owner claims to be aggrieved by any decision of the building official, such person or his authorized agent may appeal, in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the board of appeals, from the decision of the building official to the board of appeals, and before determining the merits of such appeal the board of appeals shall first determine whether such person has a right to appeal. Upon receipt of an appeal from an owner or his representative or approval of an appeal by a person other than the owner, the chairman of the board of appeals shall appoint a panel of not less than three members of such board to hear such appeal. Such appeal shall be heard in the municipality for which the building official serves within five days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, after the date of receipt of such appeal. Such panel shall render a decision upon the appeal and file the same with the building official from whom such appeal has been taken not later than five days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, following the day

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of the hearing thereon. A copy of such decision shall be mailed, prior to such filing, to the party taking such appeal. Any person aggrieved by the decision of a panel may appeal to the Codes and Standards Committee within fourteen days after the filing of the decision with the building official. Any determination made by the local panel shall be subject to review de novo by said committee.

- (c) If, at the time that a building official makes a decision under subsection (b) of this section, there is no board of appeals for the municipality in which the building official serves, a person who claims to be aggrieved by such decision may submit an appeal [, in writing,] to the chief executive officer of such municipality. Such appeal may be made in writing or by electronic mail, in a manner prescribed by the chief executive officer. If, within five days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, after the date of receipt of such appeal by such officer, the municipality fails to appoint a board of appeals from among either its own residents or residents of other municipalities, such officer shall file a notice of such failure with the building official from whom the appeal has been taken and, prior to such filing, mail a copy of the notice to the person taking the appeal. Such person may appeal the decision of the building official to the Codes and Standards Committee within fourteen days after the filing of such notice with the building official. If the municipality succeeds in appointing a board of appeals, the chief executive officer of the municipality shall immediately transmit the written appeal to such board, which shall review the appeal in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.
- (d) Any person aggrieved by any ruling of the Codes and Standards Committee may appeal to the superior court for the judicial district where such building or structure has been or is being erected.
- Sec. 32. Section 4-124n of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):
- 1864 A regional council of governments shall adopt bylaws for the conduct 1865 of its business and shall annually elect from among the representatives

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to the council a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, a treasurer [, who shall be bonded,] and such other officers as may be designated or permitted in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for alternate representatives of the council to attend and vote at any meeting in place of absent representatives and may provide for the organization of a regional planning commission. [No representative shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.] The bylaws [shall] may provide for an executive committee of the council and [an executive committee of the regional planning commission and may provide] for additional committees including nonvoting advisory committees. Meetings of the council shall be called [by the chairman or as the bylaws shall otherwise provide] pursuant to the bylaws and minutes of all meetings of the council, its committees and other official actions shall be filed in the office of the council and shall be of public record.

- Sec. 33. Section 4-124s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 1883 (a) For purposes of this section:

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- 1884 (1) "Regional council of governments" means any such council organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;
- 1886 (2) "Municipality" means a town, city or consolidated town and borough;
- 1888 (3) "Legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council, 1889 city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of 1890 representatives or board of the warden and burgesses of a municipality;
- 1891 (4) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and 1892 Management or the designee of the secretary; [and]
- 1893 (5) "Regional educational service center" has the same meaning as provided in section 10-282; [.] and
- 1895 (6) "Employee organization" means any lawful association, labor

organization, federation or council having as a primary purpose the improvement of wages, hours and other conditions of employment.

(b) There is established a regional performance incentive program that shall be administered by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. [On or before December 31, 2011, and annually thereafter, any] Any regional council of governments, [any two or more municipalities acting through a regional council of governments, any economic development district, any regional educational service center or [any] a combination thereof may submit a proposal to the secretary for: (1) The [joint] provision of any service that one or more participating municipalities of such council [,] or local or regional board of education of such regional educational service center [or agency] currently provide but which is not provided on a regional basis, (2) [a planning study regarding the joint provision of any service on a regional basis, or (3) shared information technology services] the redistribution of grants awarded pursuant to sections 4-66g, 4-66h, 4-66m and 7-536, according to regional priorities, or (3) regional revenue sharing among such participating municipalities pursuant to section 7-148bb, as amended by this act. A copy of said proposal shall be sent to the legislators representing said participating municipalities or local or regional boards of education. Any [local or regional board of education or] regional educational service center serving a population greater than one hundred thousand may submit a proposal to the secretary for a regional special education initiative.

(c) (1) A regional council of governments [, an economic development district, a] or regional educational service center [or a local or regional board of education] shall submit each proposal in the form and manner the secretary prescribes and shall, at a minimum, provide the following information for each proposal: (A) Service or initiative description; (B) the explanation of the need for such service or initiative; (C) the method of delivering such service or initiative on a regional basis; (D) the organization that would be responsible for regional service or initiative delivery; (E) a description of the population that would be served; (F) the manner in which the proposed regional service or initiative delivery

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will achieve economies of scale for participating municipalities or boards of education; (G) the amount by which participating municipalities will reduce their mill rates as a result of savings realized; (H) a cost benefit analysis for the provision of the service or initiative by each participating municipality and by the entity or board of education submitting the proposal; (I) a plan of implementation for delivery of the service or initiative on a regional basis; (J) a resolution endorsing such proposal approved by the [legislative] governing body of [each participating municipality; and (K)] the council or center, which shall include a statement that not less than twenty-five per cent of the cost of such proposal shall be funded by the council or center in the first year of operation, and that by the fourth year of operation the council or center shall fund one hundred per cent of such cost; (K) a resolution endorsing such proposal approved by the governing body of the council of each planning region in which the service or initiative is to be provided; (L) an acknowledgment from any employee organization that may be impacted by such proposal that they have been informed of and consulted about the proposal; and (M) an explanation of the potential legal obstacles, if any, to the regional provision of the service or initiative, and how such obstacles will be resolved.

(2) The secretary shall review each proposal and shall award grants for proposals the secretary determines best [meet the requirements of this section. In awarding such grants, the secretary shall give priority to a proposal submitted by (A) any entity specified in subsection (a) of this section that includes participation of all of the member municipalities of such entity, and which may increase the purchasing power of participating municipalities or provide a cost savings initiative resulting in a decrease in expenses of such municipalities, allowing such municipalities to lower property taxes, (B) any economic development district, and (C) any local or regional board of education] satisfy the following criteria: (A) The proposed service or initiative will be available to or benefit all participating members of the regional council of governments or regional educational service center regardless of such members' participation in the grant application process; (B) when

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compared to the existing delivery of services by participating members of the council or center, the proposal demonstrates (i) a positive cost benefit to such members, (ii) increased efficiency and capacity in the delivery of services, (iii) a diminished need for state funding, and (iv) increased cost savings; (C) the proposed service or initiative promotes cooperation among participating members that may lead to a reduction in economic or social inequality; (D) the proposal has been approved by a majority of the members of the council or center and, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, contains a statement that not less than twenty-five per cent of the cost of such proposal shall be funded by the council or center in the first year of operation, and that by the fourth year of operation the council or center shall fund one hundred per cent of such cost; and (E) any employee organizations that may be impacted by such proposal have been informed of and consulted about such proposal, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

(d) [On or before December 31, 2013, and annually thereafter until December 31, 2018, in addition to any proposal submitted pursuant to this section, any municipality or regional council of governments may apply to the secretary for a grant to fund: (1) Operating costs associated with connecting to the state-wide high speed, flexible network developed pursuant to section 4d-80, including the costs to connect at the same rate as other government entities served by such network; and (2) capital cost associated with connecting to such network, including expenses associated with building out the internal fiber network connections required to connect to such network, provided the secretary shall make any such grant available in accordance with the two-year schedule by which the Bureau of Enterprise Systems and Technology recommends connecting each municipality and regional council of governments to such network. Any municipality or regional council of governments shall submit each application in the form and manner the secretary prescribes.] Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 7-339a to 7-339l, inclusive, or any other provision of the general statutes, no regional council of governments or regional educational service center or any member municipalities or local or regional boards of education

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of such councils or centers shall be required to execute an interlocal agreement to implement a proposal submitted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

- (e) Any board of education awarded a grant for a proposal submitted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section may deposit any cost savings realized as a result of the implementation of the proposed service or initiative into a nonlapsing account pursuant to section 10-248a.
- 2005 [(e)] (f) The secretary shall submit to the Governor and the joint 2006 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of 2007 matters relating to finance, revenue and bonding a report on the grants 2008 provided pursuant to this section. Each such report shall (1) include 2009 information on the amount of each grant [,] and the potential of each 2010 grant for leveraging other public and private investments, and (2) 2011 describe any property tax reductions and improved services achieved 2012 by means of the program established pursuant to this section. The 2013 secretary shall submit a report for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2014 2011, not later than February 1, 2012, and shall submit a report for each 2015 subsequent fiscal year not later than the first day of March in such fiscal 2016 year. [Such reports shall include the property tax reductions achieved 2017 by means of the program established pursuant to this section.]
- Sec. 34. Subsection (b) of section 8-31b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
 - (b) A regional council of governments may accept or participate in any grant, donation or program available to any political subdivision of the state and may also accept or participate in any grant, donation or program made available to counties by any other governmental or private entity. Notwithstanding the provisions of any special or public act, any political subdivision of the state may enter into an agreement with a regional council of governments to perform jointly or to provide, alone or in cooperation with any other entity, any service, activity or undertaking that the political subdivision is authorized by law to

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2030 perform. A regional council of governments established pursuant to this 2031 section may administer and provide regional services to municipalities 2032 by affirmative vote of the member municipalities of such council, and 2033 may delegate such authority to subregional groups of such 2034 municipalities. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 7-339a to 7-2035 339*l*, inclusive, the administration and provision of such services shall 2036 not require the execution of any interlocal agreement. Regional services 2037 provided to member municipalities shall be determined by each 2038 regional council of governments, except as provided in subsection (b) of 2039 section 9-229 and section 9-229b, and may include, without limitation, 2040 the following services: (1) Engineering; (2) inspectional and planning; 2041 economic development; (4) public safety; (5) emergency 2042 management; (6) animal control; (7) land use management; (8) tourism 2043 promotion; (9) social; (10) health; (11) education; (12) data management; 2044 (13) regional sewerage; (14) housing; (15) computerized mapping; (16) 2045 household hazardous waste collection; (17) recycling; (18) public facility 2046 siting; (19) coordination of master planning; (20) vocational training and 2047 development; (21) solid waste disposal; (22) fire protection; (23) regional 2048 resource protection; (24) regional impact studies; 2049 transportation.

Sec. 35. Section 4-66k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) There is established an account to be known as the "regional planning incentive account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Except as provided in subsection [(d)] (e) of this section, moneys [,] in the account shall be expended by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management [in accordance with subsection (b) of this section] for the purposes of first providing funding to regional planning organizations in accordance with the provisions of subsections (b), [and] (c) and (d) of this section and then to providing grants under the regional performance incentive program established pursuant to section 4-124s, as amended by this act.

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(b) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional planning organization, as defined in section 4-124i, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars. Any regional council of governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning organizations that voluntarily consolidate on or before December 31, 2013, shall receive an additional payment in an amount equal to the amount the regional planning organizations would have received if such regional planning organizations had not voluntarily consolidated.

- (c) [Beginning in the fiscal year] For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [and annually thereafter] to June 30, 2021, inclusive, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars plus fifty cents per capita, using population information from the most recent federal decennial census. Any regional council of governments that is comprised of any two or more regional planning organizations, as defined in section 4-124i, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, that voluntarily consolidated on or before December 31, 2013, shall receive a payment in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars for each such regional planning organization that voluntarily consolidated on or before said date.
- (d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, funds from the regional planning incentive account shall be distributed to each regional council of governments formed pursuant to section 4-124j, in the amount of one hundred eighty-five thousand five hundred dollars plus sixty-eight cents per capita, using population information from the most recent federal decennial census.
- (2) Not later than July 1, 2021, and annually thereafter, each regional council of governments shall submit to the secretary a proposal for expenditure of the funds described in subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such proposal may include, but need not be limited to, a description of

(A) functions, activities or services currently performed by the state or municipalities that may be provided in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or higher quality manner by such council, a regional educational service center or similar regional entity; (B) anticipated cost savings relating to the sharing of government services, including, but not limited to, joint purchasing; (C) the standardization and alignment of various regions of the state; or (D) any other initiatives that may facilitate the delivery of services to the public in a more efficient, cost-effective, responsive or higher quality manner.

[(d)] (e) There is established a regionalization subaccount within the regional planning incentive account. If the Connecticut Lottery Corporation offers online its existing lottery draw games through the corporation's Internet web site, online service or mobile application, the revenue from such online offering that exceeds an amount equivalent to the costs of the debt-free community college program under section 10a-174 shall be deposited in the subaccount, or, if such online offering is not established, the amount provided under subsection (b) of section 364 of public act 19-117 for regionalization initiatives shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount shall be expended only for the purposes recommended by the task force established under section 4-66s.

Sec. 36. Section 4-66r of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

(a) For the fiscal [year] <u>years</u> ending June 30, 2018, [and each fiscal year thereafter] <u>and June 30, 2019</u>, each regional council of governments shall, within available appropriations, receive a grant-in-aid to be known as a regional services grant, the amount of which shall be based on a formula to be determined by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before November 1, 2017. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, [or any fiscal year thereafter,] unless the

secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before July 1, 2018. [, and annually thereafter.]

- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 29 of public act 19-117, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, each regional council of governments shall receive a grant-in-aid to be known as a regional services grant, the amount of which shall be determined pursuant to section 4-66k, as amended by this act. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or any fiscal year thereafter, unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before July 1, 2019, and annually thereafter. The secretary may provide biennial spending plan approval process guidelines at the secretary's discretion.
- (c) Each regional council of governments shall use such grant funds for planning purposes and to achieve efficiencies in the delivery of municipal services, without diminishing the quality of such services. On or before October 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, each regional council of governments shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development and finance, revenue and bonding, and to the secretary. Such report shall (1) summarize the expenditure of such grant funds in the prior fiscal year, (2) describe any regional program, project or initiative currently provided or planned by the council, (3) review the performance of any existing regional program, project or initiative relative to its initial goals and objectives, (4) analyze the existing services provided by member municipalities or by the state that, in the opinion of the council, could be more effectively or efficiently provided on a regional basis, and (5) provide recommendations for legislative action concerning potential impediments to the regionalization of services.
- Sec. 37. Section 4-66*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

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2162	(a) For the purposes of this section:			
2163 2164	(1) "FY 15 mill rate" means the mill rate a municipality used during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015;			
2165 2166	(2) "Mill rate" means, unless otherwise specified, the mill rate a municipality uses to calculate tax bills for motor vehicles;			
2167 2168 2169 2170	(3) "Municipality" means any town, city, consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough. "Municipality" includes a district for the purposes of subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of this section; (4) "Municipal spending" means:			
T17 T18 T19 T20 T21 T22 T23 T24 T25 T26	Municipal Municipal spending for spending for the fiscal year the fiscal year prior to the - two years current fiscal prior to the year current year Municipal X 100 spending; Municipal spending for the fiscal year two years prior to the current year			
2171	(5) "Per capita distribution" means:			
T27 T28 T29	Municipal population X Sales tax revenue = Per capita distribution Total state population			
2172	(6) "Pro rata distribution" means:			
T30 T31 T32	Municipal weighted mill rate calculation X Sales tax revenue = Pro rata distribution;			
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T33	Sum of all municipal
T34	weighted mill rate
T35	calculations combined
2173	(7) "Regional council of governments" means any such council
2174	organized under the provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive;
2175	(8) "Municipal population" means the number of persons in a
2176	municipality according to the most recent estimate of the Department of
2177	Public Health;
2178	(9) "Total state population" means the number of persons in this state
2179	according to the most recent estimate published by the Department of
2180	Public Health;
2181	(10) "Weighted mill rate" means a municipality's FY 15 mill rate
2182	divided by the average of all municipalities' FY 15 mill rate;
2183	(11) "Weighted mill rate calculation" means per capita distribution
2184	multiplied by a municipality's weighted mill rate;
2185	(12) "Sales tax revenue" means the moneys in the account remaining
2186	for distribution pursuant to subdivision [(7)] (6) of subsection (b) of this
2187	section;
2188	(13) "District" means any district, as defined in section 7-324; and
2189	(14) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
2190	Management.
2191	(b) There is established an account to be known as the "municipal
2192	revenue sharing account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account
2193	within the General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys
2194	required by law to be deposited in the account. The secretary shall set
2195	aside and ensure availability of moneys in the account in the following
2196	order of priority and shall transfer or disburse such moneys as follows:

2197 (1) Ten million dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, shall 2198 be transferred not later than April fifteenth for the purposes of grants 2199 under section 10-262h;

- (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make motor vehicle property tax grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be expended not later than August first annually by the secretary;
- (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys sufficient to make the grants payable from the select payment in lieu of taxes grant account established pursuant to section 12-18c shall annually be transferred to the select payment in lieu of taxes account in the Office of Policy and Management;
 - (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, moneys sufficient to make the municipal revenue sharing grants payable to municipalities pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section shall be expended not later than October thirty-first annually by the secretary;
- [(5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, seven million dollars shall be expended for the purposes of the regional services grants pursuant to subsection (e) of this section to the regional councils of governments;
- [(6)] (5) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys may be expended for the purpose of supplemental motor vehicle property tax grants pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and
 - [(7)] (6) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, moneys in the account remaining shall be expended annually by the secretary for the purposes of the municipal revenue sharing grants established pursuant to subsection [(f)] (d) of this section. Any such moneys deposited in the account for municipal revenue sharing grants between October first and June thirtieth shall be distributed to

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municipalities on the following October first and any such moneys deposited in the account between July first and September thirtieth shall be distributed to municipalities on the following January thirty-first. Any municipality may apply to the Office of Policy and Management on or after July first for early disbursement of a portion of such grant. The Office of Policy and Management may approve such an application if it finds that early disbursement is required in order for a municipality to meet its cash flow needs. No early disbursement approved by said office may be issued later than September thirtieth.

- (c) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities that impose mill rates on real property and personal property other than motor vehicles greater than 39 mills or that, when combined with the mill rate of any district located within the municipality, impose mill rates greater than 39 mills, shall be made in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of property taxes levied by the municipality and any district located within the municipality on motor vehicles for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2013, and the amount such levy would have been if the mill rate on motor vehicles for said assessment year was 39 mills.
- (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities that impose mill rates on real property and personal property other than motor vehicles greater than 45 mills or that, when combined with the mill rate of any district located within the municipality, impose mill rates greater than 45 mills, shall be made in an amount equal to the difference between the amount of property taxes levied by the municipality and any district located within the municipality on motor vehicles for the assessment year commencing October 1, 2016, and the amount such levy would have been if the mill rate on motor vehicles for said assessment year was 45 mills.
- (3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, any municipality that imposed a mill rate for real and personal property of more than 39 mills during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and effected a revaluation of

real property for the 2014 or 2015 assessment year that resulted in an increase of 4 or more mills over the prior mill rate, may apply to the Office of Policy and Management for a supplemental motor vehicle property tax grant. The Office of Policy and Management may approve such an application, within available funds, provided such supplemental grant does not reduce any amount payable to any other municipality.

- (4) Not later than fifteen calendar days after receiving a property tax grant pursuant to this section, the municipality shall disburse to any district located within the municipality the amount of any such property tax grant that is attributable to the district.
- [(d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, each municipality shall receive a municipal revenue sharing grant, which shall be payable August 1, 2016, from the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established in section 4-66p. The total amount of the grant payable is as follows:

T36	Municipality	Grant Amount
T37	Andover	66,705
T38	Ansonia	605,442
T39	Ashford	87,248
T40	Avon	374,711
T41	Barkhamsted	76,324
T42	Beacon Falls	123,341
T43	Berlin	843,048
T44	Bethany	114,329
T45	Bethel	392,605
T46	Bethlehem	42,762
T47	Bloomfield	438,458
T48	Bolton	106,449
T49	Bozrah	53,783
T50	Branford	570,402
T51	Bridgeport	14,476,283
T52	Bridgewater	15,670
T53	Bristol	1,276,119

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_	sHB 6448	Amendment
T54	Brookfield	343,611
T55	Brooklyn	103,910
T56	Burlington	193,490

T57	Canaan	14,793
T58	Canterbury	58,684
T59	Canton	211,078
T(0	Charolin	10 E62

170	Danbary	2,017,013
T71	Darien	171,485
T72	Deep River	93,525

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T73	Derby	462,718
T74	Durham	150,019
T75	East Granby	106,222

T76	East Haddam	186,418
T77	East Hampton	263,149

T78	East Hartford	3,877,281
T79	East Haven	593,493

T80	East Lyme	243,736
T81	East Windsor	232,457
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T82	Eastford	23,060
T83	Easton	155,216
T84	Ellington	321,722

T85	Enfield		911,974

T86	Essex	74,572
T87	Fairfield	795,318

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T89	Franklin	26,309
T90	Glastonbury	754,546
T91	Goshen	30,286
T92	Granby	244,839
T93	Greenwich	366,588
T94	Griswold	243,727
T95	Groton	433,177
T96	Guilford	456,863
T97	Haddam	170,440
T98	Hamden	4,491,337
T99	Hampton	38,070
T100	Hartford	13,908,437
T101	Hartland	27,964
T102	Harwinton	113,987
T103	Hebron	208,666
T104	Kent	26,808
T105	Killingly	351,213
T106	Killingworth	85,270
T107	Lebanon	149,163
T108	Ledyard	307,619
T109	Lisbon	45,413
T110	Litchfield	169,828
T111	Lyme	21,862
T112	Madison	372,897
T113	Manchester	1,972,491
T114	Mansfield	525,280
T115	Marlborough	131,065
T116	Meriden	1,315,347
T117	Middlebury	154,299
T118	Middlefield	91,372
T119	Middletown	964,657
T120	Milford	1,880,830
T121	Monroe	404,221
T122	Montville	401,756
T123	Morris	28,110

T124	Naugatuck	2,405,660
T125		
T126	New Canaan	168,106
T127	New Fairfield	288,278
T128	New Hartford	140,338
T129	New Haven	2,118,290
T130	New London	750,249
T131	New Milford	565,898
T132	Newington	651,000
T133	Newtown	572,949
T134	Norfolk	20,141
T135	North Branford	292,517
T136	North Canaan	66,052
T137	North Haven	487,882
T138	North Stonington	107,832
T139 Norwalk 3,401,5		3,401,590
T140 Norwich 1,309		1,309,943
T141 Old Lyme 79		79,946
T142 Old Saybrook 101,527		101,527
T143	T143 Orange 284,365	
T144	T144 Oxford 171,492	
T145	T145 Plainfield 310,350	
T146	Plainville	363,176
T147	Plymouth	255,581
T148	Pomfret	54,257
T149	Portland	192,715
T150	Preston	58,934
T151	Prospect	197,097
T152	Putnam	76,399
T153	Redding	189,781
T154	154 Ridgefield 512,848	
T155	Rocky Hill	405,872
T156	Roxbury	15,998
T157	Salem	85,617
T158	Salisbury	20,769

T160 Seymour 343,388 T161 Sharon 19,467 T162 Shelton 706,038 T163 Sherman 39,000 T164 Simsbury 567,460 T165 Somers 141,697 T166 South Windsor 558,715 T167 Southbury 404,731 T168 Southington 889,821 T169 Sprague 89,456 T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283	T159	Scotland	36,200
T161 Sharon 19,467 T162 Shelton 706,038 T163 Sherman 39,000 T164 Simsbury 567,460 T165 Somers 141,697 T166 South Windsor 558,715 T167 Southbury 404,731 T168 Southington 889,821 T169 Sprague 89,456 T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Walingford <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>			
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T164 Simsbury 567,460 T165 Somers 141,697 T166 South Windsor 558,715 T167 Southbury 404,731 T168 Southington 889,821 T169 Sprague 89,456 T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006	T162	Shelton	706,038
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T166 South Windsor 558,715 T167 Southbury 404,731 T168 Southington 889,821 T169 Sprague 89,456 T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542	T164	Simsbury	567,460
T167 Southbury 404,731 T168 Southington 889,821 T169 Sprague 89,456 T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Waren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T189 Watertown 453,012	T165	Somers	141,697
T168 Southington 889,821 T169 Sprague 89,456 T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Watertown 453,012	T166	South Windsor	558,715
T169 Sprague 89,456 T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T167	Southbury	404,731
T170 Stafford 243,095 T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T168	Southington	889,821
T171 Stamford 2,372,358 T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T169	Sprague	89,456
T172 Sterling 77,037 T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T170	Stafford	243,095
T173 Stonington 202,888 T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T171	Stamford	2,372,358
T174 Stratford 1,130,316 T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T172	Sterling	77,037
T175 Suffield 321,763 T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T173	Stonington	202,888
T176 Thomaston 158,888 T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T174	Stratford	1,130,316
T177 Thompson 114,582 T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T175	Suffield	321,763
T178 Tolland 303,971 T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T176	Thomaston	158,888
T179 Torrington 2,435,109 T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T177	Thompson	114,582
T180 Trumbull 745,325 T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T178	Tolland	303,971
T181 Union 17,283 T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T179		2,435,109
T182 Vernon 641,027 T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T180		
T183 Voluntown 33,914 T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T181	Union	17,283
T184 Wallingford 919,984 T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T182	Vernon	
T185 Warren 11,006 T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T183		•
T186 Washington 25,496 T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T184		•
T187 Waterbury 13,438,542 T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T185		
T188 Waterford 259,091 T189 Watertown 453,012	T186		,
T189 Watertown 453,012		5	, ,
	T188		•
T190 West Hartford 1,614,320			
T191 West Haven 1,121,850			
T192 Westbrook 80,601			,
T193 Weston 211,384	T193	Weston	211,384

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T194	Westport	262,402
T195	Wethersfield	940,267
T196	Willington	121,568
T197	Wilton	380,234
T198	Winchester	224,447
T199	Windham	513,847
T200	Windsor	593,921
T201	Windsor Locks	256,241
T202	Wolcott	340,859
T203	Woodbridge	247,758
T204	Woodbury	200,175
T205	Woodstock	97,708
T206	Borough of Danielson	-
T207	Borough of Litchfield	-
T208	Bloomfield, Blue Hills FD	92,961
T209	Enfield Thompsonville FD #2	354,311
T210	Manchester - Eighth Utility District	436,718
T211	Middletown - City Fire	910,442
T212	Middletown So Fire	413,961
T213	Norwich CCD	552,565
T214	Norwich TCD	62,849
T215	Simsbury FD	221,536
T216	Plainfield Fire District	-
T217	Windham, Special Service District #2	640,000
T218	Windham 1st Taxing District	-
T219	Windham First	
T220	West Haven First Center (D1)	1,039,843
T221	West Haven: Allingtown FD (D3)	483,505
T222	West Haven: West Shore FD (D2)	654,640

(2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019, each 2276 2277 municipality shall receive a municipal sharing grant payable not later 2278 than October thirty-first of each year. The total amount of the grant 2279 payable is as follows:

LCO No. 10181

T223	Municipality	Grant Amount
T224	Andover	96,020
T225	Ansonia	643,519
T226	Ashford	125,591
T227	Avon	539,387
T228	Barkhamsted	109,867
T229	Beacon Falls	177,547
T230	Berlin	1,213,548
T231	Bethany	164,574
T232	Bethel	565,146
T233	Bethlehem	61,554
T234	Bloomfield	631,150
T235	Bolton	153,231
T236	Bozrah	77,420
T237	Branford	821,080
T238	Bridgeport	9,758,441
T239	Bridgewater	22,557
T240	Bristol	1,836,944
T241	Brookfield	494,620
T242	Brooklyn	149,576
T243	Burlington	278,524
T244	T244 Canaan 21,294	
T245	T245 Canterbury 84,475	
T246	Canton	303,842
T247	Chaplin	69,906
T248	Cheshire	855,170
T249	Chester	83,109
T250	Clinton	386,660
T251	Colchester	475,551
T252	Colebrook	42,744
T253	Columbia	160,179
T254	Cornwall	16,221
T255	Coventry	364,100
T256	Cromwell	415,938
T257	Danbury	2,993,644

T258	Darien	246,849
T259	Deep River	134,627
T260	Derby	400,912
T261	Durham	215,949
T262	East Granby	152,904
T263	East Haddam	268,344
T264	East Hampton	378,798
T265	East Hartford	2,036,894
T266	East Haven	854,319
T267	East Lyme	350,852
T268	East Windsor	334,616
T269	Eastford	33,194
T270	Easton	223,430
T271	Ellington	463,112
T272	Enfield	1,312,766
T273	Essex	107,345
T274	Fairfield	1,144,842
T275	Farmington	482,637
T276	Franklin	37,871
T277	Glastonbury	1,086,151
T278	Goshen	43,596
T279	Granby	352,440
T280	Greenwich	527,695
T281	Griswold	350,840
T282	Groton	623,548
T283	Guilford	657,644
T284	Haddam	245,344
T285	Hamden	2,155,661
T286	Hampton	54,801
T287	Hartford	1,498,643
T288	Hartland	40,254
T289	Harwinton	164,081
T290	Hebron	300,369
T291	Kent	38,590
T292	Killingly	505,562

T293	Killingworth	122,744
T294	Lebanon	214,717
T295	Ledyard	442,811
T296	Lisbon	65,371
T297	Litchfield	244,464
T298	Lyme	31,470
T299	Madison	536,777
T300	Manchester	1,971,540
T301	Mansfield	756,128
T302	Marlborough	188,665
T303	Meriden	1,893,412
T304	Middlebury	222,109
T305	Middlefield	131,529
T306	Middletown	1,388,602
T307	Milford	2,707,412
T308	Monroe	581,867
T309	Montville	578,318
T310	Morris	40,463
T311	Naugatuck	1,251,980
T312	New Britain	3,131,893
T313	New Canaan	241,985
T314	New Fairfield	414,970
T315	New Hartford	202,014
T316	New Haven	114,863
T317	New London	917,228
T318	New Milford	814,597
T319	Newington	937,100
T320	Newtown	824,747
T321	Norfolk	28,993
T322	North Branford	421,072
T323	North Canaan	95,081
T324	North Haven	702,295
T325	North Stonington	155,222
T326	Norwalk	4,896,511
T327	Norwich	1,362,971

sHB 6448	Amendment
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T328	Old Lyme	115,080
T329	Old Saybrook	146,146
T330	Orange	409,337
T331	Oxford	246,859
T332	Plainfield	446,742
T333	Plainville	522,783
T334	Plymouth	367,902
T335	Pomfret	78,101
T336	Portland	277,409
T337	Preston	84,835
T338	Prospect	283,717
T339	Putnam	109,975
T340	Redding	273,185
T341	Ridgefield	738,233
T342	Rocky Hill	584,244
T343	Roxbury	23,029
T344	Salem	123,244
T345	Salisbury	29,897
T346	Scotland	52,109
T347	Seymour	494,298
T348	Sharon	28,022
T349	Shelton	1,016,326
T350	Sherman	56,139
T351	Simsbury	775,368
T352	Somers	203,969
T353	South Windsor	804,258
T354	Southbury	582,601
T355	Southington	1,280,877
T356	Sprague	128,769
T357	Stafford	349,930
T358	Stamford	3,414,955
T359	Sterling	110,893
T360	Stonington	292,053
T361	Stratford	1,627,064
T362	Suffield	463,170

T363	Thomaston	228,716
T364	64 Thompson 164,939	
T365	5 Tolland 437,559	
T366	Torrington	1,133,394
T367	Trumbull	1,072,878
T368	Union	24,878
T369	Vernon	922,743
T370	Voluntown	48,818
T371	Wallingford	1,324,296
T372	Warren	15,842
T373	Washington	36,701
T374	Waterbury	5,595,448
T375	Waterford	372,956
T376	Watertown	652,100
T377	West Hartford	2,075,223
T378	West Haven	1,614,877
T379	Westbrook	116,023
T380	Weston	304,282
T381	Westport	377,722
T382	Wethersfield	1,353,493
T383	Willington	174,995
T384	Wilton	547,338
T385	Winchester	323,087
T386	Windham	739,671
T387	Windsor	854,935
T388	Windsor Locks	368,853
T389	Wolcott	490,659
T390	Woodbridge	274,418
T391	Woodbury	288,147
T392	Woodstock	140,648

(e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter, each regional council of governments shall receive a regional services grant, the amount of which will be based on a formula to be

determined by the secretary, except that, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, thirty-five per cent of such grant moneys shall be awarded to regional councils of governments for the purpose of assisting regional education service centers in merging their human resource, finance or technology services with such services provided by municipalities within the region. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, three million dollars shall be expended by the secretary from the Municipal Revenue Sharing Fund established in section 4-66p for the purpose of the regional services grant. No such council shall receive a grant for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, or any fiscal year thereafter, unless the secretary approves a spending plan for such grant moneys submitted by such council to the secretary on or before July 1, 2017, and annually thereafter. The regional councils of governments shall use such grants for planning purposes and to achieve efficiencies in the delivery of municipal services by regionalizing such services, including, but not limited to, region-wide consolidation of such services. Such efficiencies shall not diminish the quality of such services. A unanimous vote of the representatives of such council shall be required for approval of any expenditure from such grant. On or before October 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, each such council shall submit a report, in accordance with section 11-4a, to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to planning and development and finance, revenue and bonding. Such report shall summarize the expenditure of such grants and provide recommendations concerning the expansion, reduction or modification of such grants.]

- [(f)] (d) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, each municipality shall receive a municipal revenue sharing grant as follows:
- 2312 (1) (A) A municipality having a mill rate at or above twenty-five shall receive the per capita distribution or pro rata distribution, whichever is higher for such municipality.
- 2315 (B) Such grants shall be increased by a percentage calculated as

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2316	follows:
T393	Sum of per capita distribution amount
T394	for all municipalities having a mill rate
T395	below twenty-five – pro rata distribution
T396	amount for all municipalities
T397	having a mill rate below twenty-five
T398	
T399	Sum of all grants to municipalities
T400	calculated pursuant to subparagraph (A)
T401	of subdivision (1) of this subsection.
2317	(C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of
2318	this subdivision, Hartford shall receive not more than 5.2 per cent of the
2319	municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this
2320	subsection; Bridgeport shall receive not more than 4.5 per cent of the
2321	municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this
2322	subsection; New Haven shall receive not more than 2.0 per cent of the
2323	municipal revenue sharing grants distributed pursuant to this
2324	subsection and Stamford shall receive not more than 2.8 per cent of the
2325	equalization grants distributed pursuant to this subsection. Any excess
2326	funds remaining after such reductions in payments to Hartford,
2327	Bridgeport, New Haven and Stamford shall be distributed to all other
2328	municipalities having a mill rate at or above twenty-five on a pro rata
2329	basis according to the payment they receive pursuant to this
2330	subdivision; and
2221	(2) A
2331	(2) A municipality having a mill rate below twenty-five shall receive
2332	the per capita distribution or pro rata distribution, whichever is less for
2333	such municipality.
2334	(3) For the purposes of this subsection, "mill rate" means the mill rate
2335	for real property and personal property other than motor vehicles.
2336	[(g)] (e) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a
2337	municipality may disburse any municipal revenue sharing grant funds
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to a district within such municipality.

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[(h)] (f) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection (d) [or (f)] of this section shall be reduced if such municipality increases its adopted budget expenditures for such fiscal year above a cap equal to the amount of adopted budget expenditures authorized for the previous fiscal year by 2.5 per cent or more or the rate of inflation, whichever is greater. Such reduction shall be in an amount equal to fifty cents for every dollar expended over the cap set forth in this subsection. For the purposes of this section, (A) "municipal spending" does not include expenditures for debt service, special education, implementation of court orders or arbitration awards, expenditures associated with a major disaster or emergency declaration by the President of the United States, a disaster emergency declaration issued by the Governor pursuant to chapter 517 or any disbursement made to a district pursuant to subsection (c) or [(g)] (e) of this section, budgeting for an audited deficit, nonrecurring grants, capital expenditures or payments on unfunded pension liabilities, (B) "adopted budget expenditures" includes expenditures from a municipality's general fund and expenditures from any nonbudgeted funds, and (C) "capital expenditure" means a nonrecurring capital expenditure of one hundred thousand dollars or more. Each municipality shall annually certify to the secretary, on a form prescribed by said secretary, whether such municipality has exceeded the cap set forth in this subsection and if so the amount by which the cap was exceeded.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection (d) or [(f)] (e) of this section shall not be reduced in the case of a municipality whose adopted budget expenditures exceed the cap set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection by an amount proportionate to any increase to its municipal population from the previous fiscal year, as determined by the secretary.

[(i)] (g) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount of the grant payable to a municipality in any year in accordance with subsection [(f)] (d) of this section shall be reduced proportionately in the event that the total of such grants in such year exceeds the amount available for such grants in the municipal revenue sharing account established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

Sec. 38. (NEW) (*Effective April 1, 2022*) (a) For the purposes of this section, "beverage" includes alcoholic liquor or an alcoholic beverage, as defined in section 30-1 of the general statutes, "food establishment" means a food establishment that is licensed or permitted to operate pursuant to section 19a-36i of the general statutes, and "municipality" has the same meaning as provided in section 8-1a of the general statutes.

- (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, special act, municipal charter or ordinance, the zoning commission of each municipality shall allow any licensee or permittee of a food establishment operating in such municipality to engage in outdoor food and beverage service as an accessory use of such food establishment's permitted use. Such accessory use shall be allowed as of right, subject only to any required administrative site plan review to determine conformance with zoning requirements not contemplated by this section, provided such accessory use would not result in the expansion of a nonconforming use.
- (c) Any such licensee or permittee may engage in outdoor food and beverage service (1) on public sidewalks and other pedestrian pathways abutting the area permitted for principal use and on which vehicular access is not allowed, (A) provided a pathway (i) is constructed in compliance with physical accessibility guidelines, as applicable, under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12101, et seq., as amended from time to time, and (ii) such pathway extends for the length of the lot upon which the area permitted for principal use is located, and not less than four feet in width, not including any area on a street or highway, shall remain unobstructed for pedestrian use, and (B) subject to reasonable conditions imposed by the municipal official or agency

that issues right-of-way or obstruction permits; (2) on off-street parking spaces associated with the permitted use, notwithstanding any municipal ordinance or zoning regulation establishing minimum requirements for off-street parking; (3) on any lot, yard, court or open space abutting the area permitted for principal use, provided (A) such lot, yard, court or open space is located in a zoning district where the operation of food establishments is permitted, (B) such use is in compliance with any applicable requirements for access or pathways pursuant to physical accessibility guidelines under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12101, et seq., as amended from time to time, and (C) the licensee or permittee obtains written authorization to engage in such service from the owner of such lot, yard, court or open space and provides a copy of such authorization to the zoning commission; and (4) until 9 o'clock p.m., or a time established by the zoning commission of the municipality, whichever is later.

- Sec. 39. (*Effective from passage*) Section 5 of substitute house bill 6318 of the current session shall take effect October 1, 2021.
- Sec. 40. Subsection (a) of section 32-37 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1*, 2021):
 - (a) The powers of the corporation shall be vested in and exercised by the board of directors. Eight members of the board shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting of the board shall be necessary and sufficient for any action taken by the board. No vacancy in the membership of the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the board. Any action taken by the board may be authorized by resolution at any regular or special meeting and shall take effect immediately unless otherwise provided in the resolution. Notice of any regular meeting shall be given in writing, by telephone or orally, not less than forty-eight hours prior to the meeting. Notice of any special meeting shall be given in accordance with subsection [(d)] (e) of section 1-225, as amended by this act."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following			
sections:			
Section 1	from passage	1-200	
Sec. 2	July 1, 2021	1-206	
Sec. 3	July 1, 2021	1-225	
Sec. 4	July 1, 2021	1-227	
Sec. 5	July 1, 2021	1-228	
Sec. 6	from passage	7-7	
Sec. 7	from passage	7-8	
Sec. 8	July 1, 2021	1-232	
Sec. 9	July 1, 2021	New section	
Sec. 10	from passage	New section	
Sec. 11	October 1, 2021	7-34a	
Sec. 12	October 1, 2021	7-51a	
Sec. 13	October 1, 2021	New section	
Sec. 14	October 1, 2021	7-148j	
Sec. 15	October 1, 2021	7-148k	
Sec. 16	October 1, 2021	7-148bb	
Sec. 17	October 1, 2021	7-148ii	
Sec. 18	October 1, 2021	7-152b	
Sec. 19	October 1, 2021	7-245	
Sec. 20	October 1, 2021	7-255	
Sec. 21	October 1, 2021	7-257	
Sec. 22	October 1, 2021	12-111	
Sec. 23	October 1, 2021	12-117	
Sec. 24	October 1, 2021	12-170f(a)	
Sec. 25	October 1, 2021	12-170g	
Sec. 26	October 1, 2021	12-170w(a)	
Sec. 27	July 1, 2021	12-170aa	
Sec. 28	October 1, 2021	12-170cc	
Sec. 29	October 1, 2021	29-263(a)	
Sec. 30	October 1, 2021	29-264	
Sec. 31	October 1, 2021	29-266	
Sec. 32	July 1, 2021	4-124n	
Sec. 33	from passage	4-124s	
Sec. 34	from passage	8-31b(b)	
Sec. 35	July 1, 2021	4-66k	
Sec. 36	July 1, 2021	4-66r	
Sec. 37	July 1, 2021	4-66 <i>l</i>	

Sec. 38	April 1, 2022	New section
Sec. 39	from passage	New section
Sec. 40	July 1, 2021	32-37(a)